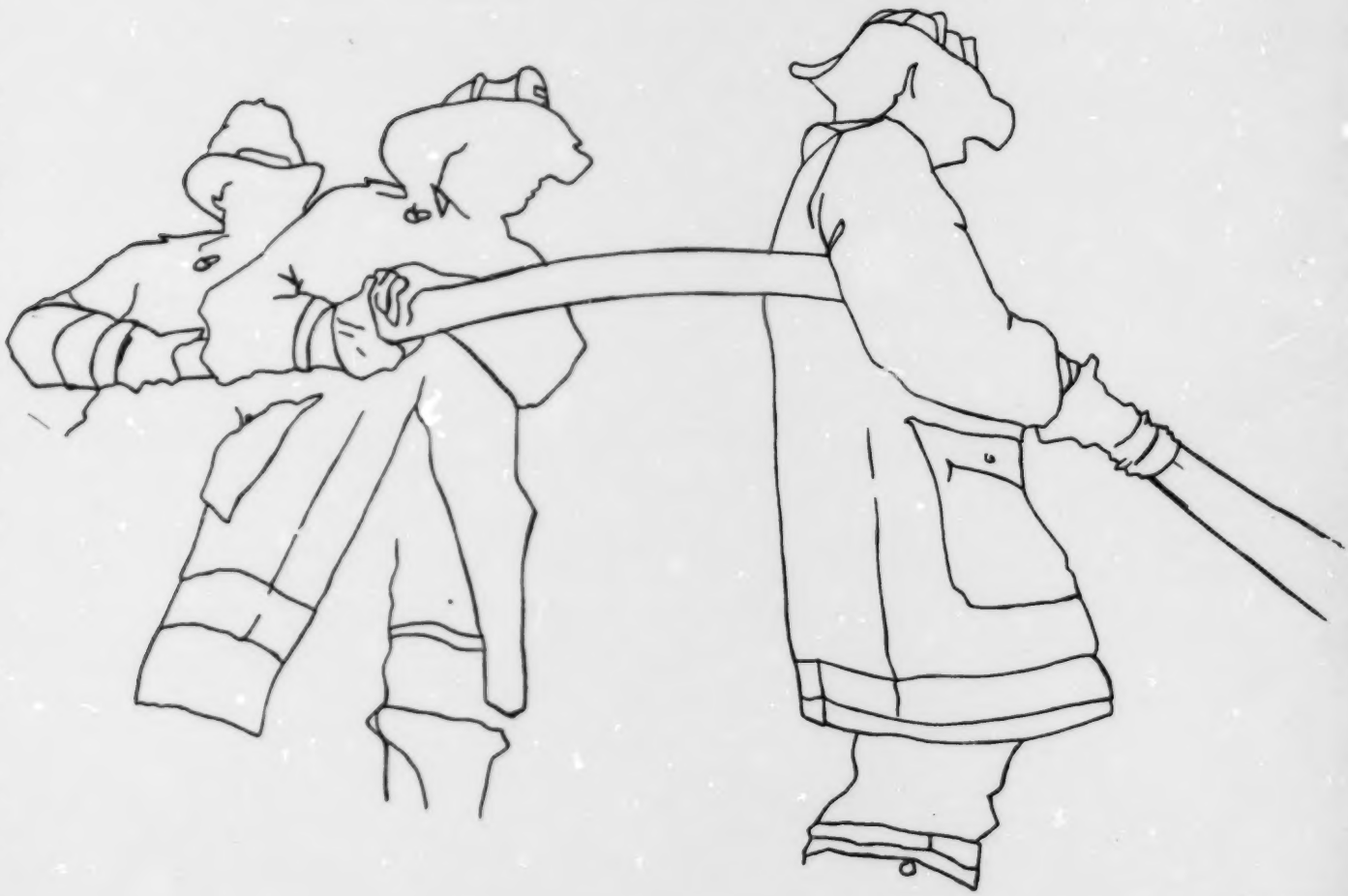
REPORT
to the HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY
of the SELECT COMMITTEE OF
INQUIRY ON VOLUNTEER FIRE SERVICE



JUNE, 1984

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THE SELECT COMMITTEE OF THE HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY ON THE VOLUNTEER FIRE SERVICE WAS ESTABLISHED BY RESOLUTION NUMBER 145 DATED THE 10TH DAY OF MARCH, 1981.

THE THEN MINISTER OF LABOUR AND MANPOWER (THE HON. KEN STREATCH) FOR THE PROVINCE OF NOVA SCOTIA ESTABLISHED THE SELECT COMMITTEE OF THE HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY FOR THE PURPOSE OF EXAMINING ALL ASPECTS OF THE VOLUNTEER FIRE SERVICE WITHIN THE PROVINCE.

THIS SELECT COMMITTEE WAS TO THE BEST OF OUR KNOWLEDGE THE FIRST OF ITS KIND TO BE ESTABLISHED IN THIS COUNTRY AND REFLECTS THE CRITICAL IMPORTANCE OF THE VOLUNTEER FIRE SERVICE TO THE NEEDS OF THIS PROVINCE.

MANY MEMBERS OF THE HOUSE WERE AWARE OF THE CONTRIBUTIONS MADE IN THE PAST AND THE PRESENT, BUT WE SHARED CONCERNS FOR THE FUTURE OF THIS SERVICE AS URBANIZATION TENDS TO INCREASE THE PROBLEMS OF A VOLUNTEER FIRE SERVICE AND THE COSTS OF EQUIPMENT SEEMS TO BE INCREASING FASTER THAN THE FUND RAISING ABILITIES OF THESE DEPARTMENTS.

OUR STUDY, WITH THE NUMEROUS SUBMISSIONS AND PUBLIC HEARINGS, REAFFIRMED SOME OF THE CONCERNS AND DEVELOPED AN AWARENESS OF PRIORITY AREAS SUCH AS THE NEED FOR MORE TRAINING.

THE HEIGHTENED AWARENESS THAT RESULTED FROM COMMITTEE STUDIES HAS NOT JUST BEEN RESTRICTED TO OUR MEMBERS BUT IS SPREAD THROUGHOUT THE FIRE SERVICE, MUNICIPAL AND PROVINCIAL OFFICIALS AND TO OTHER JURISDICTIONS AND, IF NOTHING ELSE OCCURRED, THIS NEW AWARENESS WOULD BE A VALUABLE CONTRIBUTION TO THE VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTERS OF THE PROVINCE.

AFTER THE COMMITTEE WAS ORIGINALLY FORMED AND PRELIMINARY MEETINGS WERE HELD, IT WAS DECIDED TO HOLD PUBLIC HEARINGS. IN ORDER TO ENSURE MAXIMUM PARTICIPATION, IT WAS DECIDED TO HAVE THE COMMITTEE TRAVEL TO EACH COUNTY, WHERE PARTICIPATION WARRANTED, FOR HEARINGS AND TO ADVERTISE IN EACH PAPER IN THE PROVINCE AS WELL AS MAILING NOTICES TO EVERY VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT AND MUNICIPAL UNIT .

THE ISSUANCE OF AN ELECTION WRIT DISSOLVED THE HOUSE AND SUBSEQUENT TO THE RESUMPTION OF THE HOUSE BY RESOLUTION NO. 157 DATED THE 9TH DAY OF MARCH, 1982, THE COMMITTEE WAS RECONSTITUTED WITH THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS:

CHAIRMAN-GEORGE MOODY

MEMBERS

HON. JACK MACISSAC
HON. ARTHUR DONAHOE
HON. DAVID NANTES
HON. MEL PICKINGS
OSSIE FRASER
HAROLD HUSKILSON
PAUL MACEWAN
MALCOLM MACKAY
JOHN ARCHIE MACKENZIE
DONALD MCINNES
CHESTER MELANSON

AS NOTED IN OUR INTERIM REPORT, WE WERE SHOCKED AND SADDENED BY THE LOSS OF OSBORNE FRASER. WE SADLY MISS HIM AND HIS CONTRIBUTION TO OUR DELIBERATIONS.

WE SINCERELY EXPRESS OUR THANKS TO EACH PARTICIPANT FOR THEIR INTEREST AND SUBMISSIONS AND ALSO THANK THOSE DEPARTMENTS WHICH HOSTED THE HEARINGS. WHILE WE ARE HESITANT TO ISOLATE ANY SPECIFIC GROUPS FOR SPECIAL PRAISE, WE BELIEVE THAT THE CONTINUING ASSISTANCE OF THE MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF THE NOVA SCOTIA FIREFIGHTERS SCHOOL AT WAVERLEY AND THE CHIEF FIRE OFFICERS ASSOCIATION OF NOVA SCOTIA MUST BE NOTED AS BEING OF IMMENSE BENEFIT TO US IN THIS STUDY.

AFTER THE MEETINGS WERE HELD EACH EVENING, WE OFTEN HAD THE ADDITIONAL OPPORTUNITY TO DISCUSS THE WRITTEN AND ORAL PRESENTATIONS AND THIS TOGETHER WITH MANY SUBSEQUENT DISCUSSIONS AMONG OURSELVES LEFT US WITH A TREMENDOUS REGARD FOR OUR VOLUNTEERS.

WE BELIEVE THE SPIRIT OF THE VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTER IS DEPENDENT UPON THE PRIDE OF THE JOB BEING WELL DONE, AND I BELIEVE SINCERELY OUR FIREFIGHTERS CAN BE COMPARED FAVOURABLY WITH ANY OTHER AREA OF THE COUNTRY.

THESE VOLUNTEERS SACRIFICE THEIR TIME AND OFTEN FINANCES TO ASSIST THEIR COMMUNITY AND VERY FEW SEEK RECOGNITION OR REWARDS. THEY RAISE MONEY, IN MANY CASES, ON THEIR OWN AND WISH TO MAINTAIN THEIR INDEPENDENCE FOR THE MOST PART.

WE CERTAINLY WISH TO BE SUPPORTIVE AND WANT TO AVOID ANY IMPAIRMENT OF THIS SPIRIT.

MANY DEPARTMENTS HAVE AN EXCELLENT RAPPORT WITH THEIR MUNICIPAL UNITS AND TOGETHER THEY STRESSED IT WAS THEIR WISH TO AVOID PROVINCIAL INTERFERENCE OR CONTROL. THEY STRONGLY WISH TO OBSERVE THE DICTATES OF THEIR COMMUNITY AND ONLY WISH FOR SUPPORT OF THEIR GOALS.

THERE ARE, AS EXPRESSED IN THIS REPORT, LEGITIMATE PROVINCIAL AREAS OF INTEREST ON WHICH WE HAVE MADE RECOMMENDATIONS AND AREAS WHICH WILL REQUIRE FUTURE STUDY AND SPECIFIC AREAS WHICH HAVE TO BE MONITORED BECAUSE IF THERE IS NO CHANGE NOW, THERE MAY WELL BE A NEED FOR DIRECT PARTICIPATION AT A PROVINCIAL LEVEL IN THE FUTURE.

I WOULD ALSO, ON BEHALF OF THE COMMITTEE, LIKE TO EXTEND THANKS TO SUPPORT STAFF OF CAMERON CROWELL AND GORDON D. GILLIS WHO, TOGETHER WITH THE FIRE MARSHAL, CHARLES FINDLAY, ATTENDED AT THE MANY PUBLIC HEARINGS AND MOST OF THE MEETINGS OF THIS COMMITTEE.

I COMMEND THIS REPORT TO THE HOUSE IN THE HOPE THAT EACH MEMBER WILL STUDY IT AND BE REFRESHED BY THE EFFORTS OF A MAGNIFICENT GROUP OF PEOPLE - THE VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTERS OF NOVA SCOTIA.

YOURS VERY TRULY

George C. Moody

GEORGE C. MOODY

PROGRESS ON RECOMMENDATIONS CONTAINED IN THE INTERIM REPORT TO THE HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY BY THE SELECT COMMITTEE ON THE VOLUNTEER FIRE SERVICE

AS WAS EVIDENCED FROM THE INTERIM REPORT TO THE HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY OF THE SELECT COMMITTEE OF INQUIRY ON THE VOLUNTEER FIRE SERVICE TABLED IN THE LEGISLATURE IN MAY OF 1983, THERE WERE A NUMBER OF ISSUES RAISED DURING THE PUBLIC HEARING PROCESS WHICH THE COMMITTEE FELT COULD BE ACTED UPON WHILE THE FINAL REPORT WAS BEING PREPARED.

SUBSEQUENTLY A NUMBER OF RECOMMENDATIONS WERE MADE. THE FOLLOWING FEW PAGES RECOUNT THOSE RECOMMENDATIONS MADE TO THE HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY AND DEMONSTRATE THE PROGRESS WHICH HAS BEEN MADE TO DATE ON THOSE SPECIFIC RECOMMENDATIONS.

RECOMMENDATION 1

THIS COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS:

> "THE APPOINTMENT OF FIRE CHIEFS AS FIRE WARDS BE MADE MANDATORY IN THE TOWNS ACT, R.S.N.S., CH. 309 IN A MANNER SIMILIAR TO THE REQUIREMENTS OF THE MUNICIPAL ACT, R.S.N.S. 1967, CH. 192."

THE TOWNS ACT, R.S.N.S. 1967, CH. 309 STATES THAT SOMEONE OTHER THAN THE FIRE CHIEF MAY HAVE CONTROL AT THE SCENE OF A FIRE. THIS PRINCIPLE WAS INCONSISTENT WITH THE PRINCIPLE SET FORTH IN THE MUNICIPAL ACT, R.S.N.S. 1967, CH. 192.

THE MINISTER OF MUNICIPAL AFFAIRS, IN ORDER TO PREVENT THIS APPARENT CONFLICT AND CONFUSION, HAS SUBMITTED AN AMENDMENT TO THE TOWNS ACT WHICH WILL MAKE MANDATORY THE APPOINTMENT OF THE FIRE CHIEFS AS FIRE WARDS.

RECOMMENDATION 2

THIS COMMITTEE NOTES THERE HAS BEEN A RECENT AMENDMENT (MARCH 30, 1983) TO THE PROVINCIAL MANAGEMENT MANUAL WHICH PROVIDES FOR:

> "THE ADDITION OF SECTION 12 TO PARAGRAPH 4.02 OF THE MANUAL SO AS TO PROVIDE FOR SPECIAL LEAVE WITH PAY FOR EMPLOYEES WHO ARE MEMBERS OF VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENTS WHEN CALLED OUT DURING WORKING HOURS."

THE COMMITTEE IS PLEASED TO ANNOUNCE THE NOVA SCOTIA LIQUOR COMMISSION HAS ALSO CONFIRMED THEY HAVE CHANGED THEIR POLICY SO THAT IT IS NOW CONSISTENT WITH THE PROVINCIAL MANAGEMENT MANUAL.

AS AN INDEPENDENT AGENCY, IT WAS THEIR RIGHT TO DECIDE WHETHER TO CONFORM WITH THE RECOMMENDATION OR NOT. WE ARE PLEASED THIS PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT AGENCY APPEARS TO HAVE COMPLIED WITH THE REQUEST ADDRESSED BOTH BY THIS COMMITTEE AND MANY VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENTS.

RECOMMENDATION 3

THIS COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS:

> "ESTABLISHMENT OF HIGHWAY MARKERS SHOWING DISTANCES ALONG ALL LIMITED ACCESS '100' SERIES HIGHWAYS."

SUBMISSIONS MADE BY VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENTS WHICH HAVE THEIR OPERATIONS IN CLOSE PROXIMITY TO "LIMITED ACCESS" HIGHWAYS IN NOVA SCOTIA NOTED THEY HAD DIFFICULTY LOCATING THE SCENE OF AN ACCIDENT BECAUSE OFTEN CALLERS WERE NOT FAMILIAR WITH THE LOCAL AREA.

SUBSEQUENTLY, IT WAS SUGGESTED SOME ASSISTANCE SHOULD BE PROVIDED TO THOSE MOTORISTS WHO WISH TO REPORT ACCIDENTS AND IT SHOULD BE IN THE FORM OF HIGHWAY MARKERS WHICH INDICATE DISTANCE.

TO THAT EFFECT, WITH THE COOPERATION OF THE NOVA SCOTIA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION, HIGHWAY MARKERS WILL BE ERECTED ALONG THE "100" SERIES HIGHWAYS BY NEXT YEAR (1985). IN FACT, HIGHWAY MILEAGE MARKERS HAVE ALREADY BEEN PLACED ON HIGHWAY 102 LEADING FROM TRURO TO HALIFAX.

RECOMMENDATION 4

REPRESENTATIVES OF SOME VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENTS INDICATED THEIR BELIEF, "THE ISSUANCE OF A SPECIAL LICENSE PLATE WOULD SERVE TO BETTER IDENTIFY VOLUNTEER FIREMEN".

THEY EXPRESSED THE VIEW THAT SUCH IDENTIFICATION WOULD PROVIDE THEM WITH ASSISTANCE WHEN TRAVELLING TO A FIRE BECAUSE LOCAL RESIDENTS WOULD BE INCLINED TO RECOGNIZE THE VEHICLE AS BELONGING TO A VOLUNTEER FIREMAN AND CEDE THE RIGHT OF WAY.

IN ORDER TO ACCOMMODATE THIS RECOMMENDATION BY THE VOLUNTEER FIREMEN, THE REGISTRY OF MOTOR VEHICLES WOULD HAVE TO OPERATE UNDER A "PLATE TO OWNER SYSTEM".

HOWEVER, AT THIS TIME THE REGISTRY OF MOTOR VEHICLES OPERATES UNDER A "PLATE TO VEHICLE" SYSTEM. ACCORDINGLY, COMPLIANCE WITH THIS RECOMMENDATION IS NOT FEASIBLE AT THIS TIME.

RECOMMENDATION 5

THIS COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS:

> "THAT SECTION 162(1) OF THE MOTOR VEHICLE ACT BE AMENDED TO PERMIT THE ADDITION, "ONE DEPUTY CHIEF" ALONG WITH THE CHIEF FOR THE PURPOSE OF DISPLAYING A RED LIGHT ON THE VEHICLE."

THE PROVISIONS OF THE MOTOR VEHICLE ACT PERMITTED ONLY THE CHIEF OF A VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT TO DISPLAY A RED FLASHING LIGHT ON HIS VEHICLE. IN THE EVENT THE CHIEF WAS ABSENT OR THERE WERE TWO SIMULTANEOUS CALLS, THE DEPUTY CHIEF MAY HAVE FOUND HIMSELF IN SOME DIFFICULTY.

WE ARE THEREFORE PLEASED TO ANNOUNCE THE HONOURABLE JACK MACISSAC, MINISTER OF TRANSPORTATION, HAS INTRODUCED AN AMENDMENT TO THE MOTOR VEHICLE ACT TO PERMIT THE DEPUTY FIRE CHIEF THE USE OF A FLASHING RED LIGHT.

WE HOPE THIS RECOMMENDATION WILL AID THE DEPUTY CHIEFS TO PERFORM THEIR DUTIES TO THEIR FULLEST ABILITIES.

RECOMMENDATION 6

THIS COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS:

> "THAT NO CHANGE BE MADE TO THE LICENSING SYSTEM FOR DRIVERS OF FIRE EQUIPMENT WHO ARE VOLUNTEERS WITHOUT A FULL AND FRANK CONSULTATION WITH THE FIRE SERVICE."

MANY OF THE VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT REPRESENTATIVES APPEARING BEFORE THE COMMITTEE MADE VERY STRENUOUS ARGUMENTS AGAINST THE PROPOSED CHANGES IN THE DRIVER LICENSING SYSTEM.

THEY INDICATED IT WAS THEIR FEELING THE PROPOSED CHANGES WOULD MAKE IT VERY DIFFICULT AS IT MAY PRECLUDE THE REQUIRED VOLUNTEERS FROM DRIVING THEIR VEHICLES. IT WAS SUGGESTED THAT DURING EMERGENCY SITUATIONS, THE REQUIREMENT FOR LICENSING MIGHT PREVENT NECESSARY EQUIPMENT FROM BEING TAKEN TO THE SCENE OF A FIRE.

WE THEREFORE RECOMMEND VOLUNTEER FIREMEN BE EXEMPT FROM ANY CHANGES IN THE LICENSING SYSTEM THAT MIGHT AFFECT THE PERFORMANCE OF THEIR DUTIES.

RECOMMENDATION 7

THIS COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS:

> "THAT THE CO-ORDINATOR APPOINTED AT THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION, WITH RESPECT TO THE TRANSPORTATION OF DANGEROUS GOODS, SHOULD TAKE IMMEDIATE STEPS TO MEET WITH THE VOLUNTEER FIRE CHIEFS THROUGHOUT THE PROVINCE."

MANY OF THE REPRESENTATIVES OF VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENTS AND SOME MUNICIPALITIES WHICH APPEARED AT THE PUBLIC HEARINGS HELD BY THIS COMMITTEE EXPRESSED THEIR CONCERNS WITH THE MOVEMENT OF DANGEROUS COMMODITIES THROUGH THEIR COMMUNITIES.

THESE GROUPS INDICATED THAT DANGEROUS GOODS WERE TRANSFERRED THROUGH THEIR COMMUNITIES WITHOUT NOTIFICATION TO LOCAL FIRE DEPARTMENTS AND/OR MUNICIPALITIES. THEY FELT THERE WAS A POTENTIAL FOR TRAGEDY.

THE NEW POSITION CREATED UNDER THIS RECOMMENDATION PROVIDES VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENTS WITH INFORMATION TO ENABLE THEM TO RESPOND FASTER AND MORE EFFICIENTLY SHOULD SUCH AN ACCIDENT OCCUR WHEN DANGEROUS GOODS ARE PASSING THROUGH THEIR AREAS.

RECOMMENDATION 8

THIS COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS:

> "THAT THE HEALTH SERVICES TAX ACT BE UTILIZED TO PERMIT THE ISSUING OF SALES TAX EXEMPTION CARDS TO THE VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENTS, UNDER THE AUTHORITY OF THE CHIEF AND/OR HIS REPRESENTATIVE."

MANY VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENTS MADE SUBMISSIONS TO THE COMMITTEE, WITH RESPECT TO THE HEALTH SERVICES TAX, THAT CURRENTLY ONLY A LIMITED EXEMPTION WAS PROVIDED, THAT THERE WAS A FAIR AMOUNT OF DELAY AND THAT THERE WAS AN ADMINISTRATIVE INCONVENINCE IN OBTAINING A SALES TAX EXEMPTION FOR DEPARTMENTAL PURCHASES WITHIN THE CURRENT PROVISIONS OF THE HEALTH SERVICES TAX ACT.

THE COMMITTEE IS PLEASED TO ANNOUNCE THE HONOURABLE GREG KERR, MINISTER OF FINANCE, HAS INTRODUCED LEGISLATION TO PROVIDE FOR THE ISSUANCE OF SALES TAX EXEMPTION CARDS FOR VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENTS.

RECOMMENDATION 9

THIS COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS:

> "THAT THE DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE FOR THE PROVINCE OF NOVA SCOTIA UNDERTAKE AN INITIATIVE TO CONTACT THE FEDERAL MINISTRIES REQUESTING CHANGES UNDER THE INCOME TAX ACT, THE FEDERAL EXCISE TAX ACT AND THE REMOVAL OF THE SALES TAX IN AN EFFORT TO ASSIST VOLUNTEER FIREMEN."

THIS COMITTEE HEARD MANY SUBMISSIONS FROM FIRE DEPARTMENTS WITH RESPECT TO SPECIFIC CONCERNS WHICH LIE OUTSIDE OF THE PROVINCIAL JURISDICTION. SPECIFICALLY CHANGES WERE SOUGHT UNDER THE INCOME TAX ACT TO PROVIDE FOR DEDUCTIONS FOR VOLUNTEER FIREMEN FROM THEIR PERSONAL INCOME.

IN ADDITION, SUBMISSIONS WERE MADE IN A VERY VIGOROUS MANNER INDICATING THE EXCISE TAX ACT SHOULD BE REMOVED AS IT AFFECTS FIRE FIGHTING SUPPLIES. MANY ITEMS PURCHASED ARE SUBJECT TO THE FEDERAL SALES TAX.

UNFORTUNATELY, THESE TAXES ARE UNDER FEDERAL JURISDICTION AND WE HAVE BEEN ADVISED BY OUR MINISTER OF FINANCE THAT THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT WILL NOT MAKE ANY CONCESSIONS TO THESE SPECIFIC REQUESTS.

RECOMMENDATION 10

THIS COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS:

> "THAT THE HEALTH SERVICE TAX ACT BE UTILIZED SO AS TO EXEMPT SMOKE DETECTORS AND HAND-HELD FIRE EXTINGUISHERS FROM ANY PROVINCIAL SALES TAX."

MANY FIRE DEPARTMENTS AND INDIVIDUALS WITH A DIRECT CONCERN IN THIS AREA SUGGESTED THE USE OF SMOKE DETECTORS AND HAND-HELD FIRE EXTINGUISHERS WOULD REDUCE THE TRAGIC LOSS OF LIFE FROM FIRES THAT OCCUR IN THE PROVINCE.

IT IS THE CONSENSUS OF THIS COMMITTEE, THE REMOVAL OF THE SALES TAX FROM SMOKE DETECTORS AND HAND-HELD FIRE EXTINGUISHERS MAY BE USED AS A CATALYST IN PROMOTING THEIR USE IN THE HOME.

TO THESE ENDS, THE COMMITTEE IS PLEASED TO ANNOUNCE THE HON. GREG KERR, MINISTER OF FINANCE, HAS INTRODUCED AMENDMENTS TO THE HEALTH SERVICES TAX ACT TO EXEMPT THOSE ITEMS FROM ANY PROVINCIAL SALES TAX.

RECOMMENDATION 11

THIS COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS:

(A) "THAT THE FIRE MARSHAL'S OFFICE CIRCULATE THE ADDRESS OF THE SUB-SECTOR OF THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT'S METRIC COMMISSION SO AS TO ENSURE AS MUCH AS POSSIBLE THAT THE DEPARTMENTS ARE AWARE THAT THEY CAN OBTAIN DECALS MAKING THE CONVERSION FROM IMPERIAL TO METRIC MEASUREMENTS.

(B) "THAT THE FIRE MARSHAL'S OFFICE, TOGETHER WITH THE NOVA SCOTIA FIRE FIGHTER'S SCHOOL IN WAVERLEY, CONTACT THE SUB-SECTOR TO DETERMINE WHETHER SPECIAL CLASSES CAN BE ARRANGED SO AS TO PROMOTE A BETTER KNOWLEDGE AND UNDERSTANDING OF METRIFICATION."

DURING THE PUBLIC HEARING PROCESS, THE QUESTION OF "METRIC CONVERSIONS" WAS RAISED. SPECIFICALLY, SOME DEPARTMENTS NOTED THE POSSIBILITY OF LIVES BEING LOST BECAUSE OF THE LACK OF FAMILIARITY WITH THE METRIC SYSTEM BY EVEN THEIR MOST EXPERIENCED FIREMEN.

IT WAS STRESSED, IN MANY INSTANCES, THE PRECISE PRESSURE ON A PUMP CAN BE THE DETERMINING FACTOR BETWEEN LIFE AND DEATH FOR THE FIREMEN WHEN FIGHTING A MAJOR FIRE. SUBSEQUENTLY, THESE DEPARTMENTS INDICATED THERE WAS A DISTINCT NEED FOR BOTH TRAINING AND FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE TO ENABLE VOLUNTEERS TO MAKE THE TRANSITION FROM IMPERIAL TO METRIC MEASUREMENTS ON THEIR TRUCKS AND TO ALLOW THEIR OPERATORS TO BE PROFICIENT IN EITHER SYSTEM.

STEPS HAVE NOW BEEN TAKEN TO ACQUAINT VOLUNTEER FIREMEN WITH THE METRIC SYSTEM. THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND MANPOWER HAS CONFIRMED THAT THE FIRE MARSHAL'S OFFICE HAS CIRCULATED THE ADDRESS OF THE APPROPRIATE SUB-SECTOR OF THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT'S METRIC COMMISSION.

AS WELL, THROUGH THE COOPERATION OF THE FIRE MARSHALL AND THE NOVA SCOTIA'S FIREFIGHTER'S SCHOOL IN WAVERLEY, CONTACT HAS BEEN ARRANGED WITH THE SUB-SECTOR IN ORDER TO ESTABLISH SPECIAL CLASSES TO PROMOTE A BETTER KNOWLEDGE OF METRIFICATION.

IN ADDITION, THE DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS SHALL ENSURE THAT ANY INFORMATION OR SUPPLIES, SUCH AS DECALS, ON METRIC CONVERSION WILL BE MADE AVAILABLE TO VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENTS.

RECOMMENDATION 12

THIS COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS:

> "THAT THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND MARKETING INSTRUCT THEIR ENGINEERS TO GIVE DUE CONSIDERATION FOR PROVIDING ACCESS TO AGRICULTURAL PONDS SO THEY CAN BE UTILIZED AS A WATER SUPPLY FOR FIRE PURPOSES WHEN THEY ARE PLANNING THE LOCATION OF SUCH PONDS."

DURING THE HEARING OF SUBMISSIONS, IT WAS MENTIONED, PRIMARILY IN THE RURAL AREAS, SOME OF THE AGRICULTURAL PONDS WHICH HAVE BEEN BUILT WITH THE ASSISTANCE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND MARKETING DID NOT HAVE PROPER ACCESS ROADS, THEREFORE, IN THE EVENT OF AN EMERGENCY, THE PUMPERS COULD NOT OBTAIN ACCESS TO THESE PONDS AS A SOURCE OF WATER SUPPLY.

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND MARKETING HAS INDICATED THAT HIS ENGINEERS HAVE ALREADY BEEN INSTRUCTED TO KEEP THOSE REQUIREMENTS IN MIND WHEN DISCUSSING THE CONSTRUCTION OF AGRICULTURAL PONDS.

RECOMMENDATION 13

THIS COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS:

> "THAT THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION UTILIZE THEIR CURRENT INSPECTION SERVICE STAFF TO WORK OUT PRODUCTION AND ASSIST IN THE DISTRIBUTION OF FIRE SAFETY MATERIALS FOR OUR PUBLIC SCHOOLS".

THE COMMITTEE HAS HEARD A NUMBER OF PRESENTATIONS BY MEMBERS OF VOLUNTEER FIRE SERVICES INDICATING THEY HAVE EXPERIENCED DIFFICULTIES DISTRIBUTING LITERATURE TO SCHOOLS IN THEIR JURISDICTIONS.

THIS WILL NO LONGER BE THE CASE. THE HONOURABLE TERENCE DONAHOE HAS SPECIFICALLY CONFIRMED THAT HIS INSPECTION SERVICE STAFF WOULD ASSIST IN WORKING OUT ANY PROCEDURES THAT MIGHT BE REQUIRED BY LOCAL VOLUNTEER FIRE CHIEFS AND WILL ASSIST IN ANY WAY POSSIBLE TO DISTRIBUTE FIRE SAFETY MATERIALS IN PUBLIC SCHOOLS IN THE PROVINCE OF NOVA SCOTIA.

IN ADDITION, THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION WILL BE MORE THAN WILLING TO ASSIST LOCAL FIRE CHIEFS IN ANY WAY POSSIBLE.

RECOMMENDATION 14

THIS COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS:

> "THAT REPRESENTATIVES OF THE FIRE SERVICE IN THE PROVINCE TOGETHER WITH A REPRESENTATIVE OF THE FIRE MARSHAL AND THE DIRECTOR OF CURRICULUM AT THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION FORM A CURRICULUM COMMITTEE SO AS TO INCREASE THE EMPHASIS ON FIRE PREVENTION AND GENERAL SAFETY PRINCIPLES IN THE SCHOOLS."

A NUMBER OF SUBMISSIONS MADE TO THE COMMITTEE PUT FORTH THE PREMISE THAT FIRE EDUCATION COULD ELIMINATE MANY OF THE PROBLEMS ASSOCIATED WITH FIRE PREVENTION. IT WAS FELT OUR SCHOOLS HAVE A POTENTIALLY LARGE ROLE TO PLAY IN THIS AREA. THEY ALSO INDICATED IT WAS THEIR BELIEF THE FIRE SERVICE IN THE PROVINCE WOULD BE ABLE TO ASSIST IN DEVELOPING A CURRICULUM WHICH SHOULD BE FULLY UTILIZED.

TO THESE ENDS, THE DIRECTOR OF CURRICULUM FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION HAS BEEN INSTRUCTED TO ASSIST THE NOVA SCOTIA ADVISORY COUNCIL AND THE FIRE MARSHAL'S OFFICE IN REVIEWING THE NEED TO INCLUDE IN THE CURRICULUM, GENERAL SAFETY PRINCIPLES IN OUR SCHOOLS AND MEETINGS HAVE ALREADY BEEN HELD IN THIS REGARD.

RECOMMENDATION 15

THIS COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS:

> "THAT ONE SURPRISE FIRE DRILL BE PERMITTED DURING FIRE PREVENTION WEEK IN EACH SCHOOL THROUGHOUT THE PROVINCE."

SOME INDIVIDUALS, WHEN APPEARING BEFORE THE COMMITTEE, INDICATED THEY HAD NOT ALWAYS ENCOUNTERED THE BEST OF COOPERATION WITH A SMALL NUMBER OF SCHOOL PRINCIPALS IN THE SCHOOL SYSTEM. OTHER PERSONS INDICATED THEY FELT THE COOPERATION WAS EXCELLENT BUT THEY BELIEVED RUMOURS OF IMPENDING FIRE DRILLS WERE SPREAD PRIOR TO THEIR VISITS.

THE COMMITTEE BELIEVES, FOR THE MOST PART, THE PRESENT SYSTEM IS WORKING WELL. HOWEVER, AS A COMMITTEE, IT WAS FELT THERE MAY BE A BENEFIT OF HAVING A SURPRISE FIRE DRILL DURING THE SCHOOL YEAR. THEY SHOULD NOT, HOWEVER, INTERFERE WITH EXAMS AND SHOULD BE RESTRICTED TO AN APPROPRIATE TIME OF THE SCHOOL YEAR.

FITTINGLY, THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION HAS CONFIRMED THAT SURPRISE FIRE DRILLS IN THE SCHOOLS WILL BE THE PREROGATIVE OF THE FIRE MARSHAL OF THE LOCAL FIRE DEPARTMENTS DURING FIRE PREVENTION WEEK.

RECOMMENDATIONS CONTAINED IN THE REPORT (1984) OF THE SELECT COMMITTEE ON THE VOLUNTEER FIRE SERVICE

THE SELECT COMMITTEE ON THE VOLUNTEER FIRE SERVICE, IN MAKING THE RECOMMENDATIONS CONTAINED IN THIS FINAL REPORT, TRIED TO ASSESS THE MOST REAL AND IMMEDIATE NEEDS EXPRESSED BY VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENTS THROUGHOUT THE PROVINCE WITH THE PREMISE OF DOING THE MOST GOOD FOR THE GREATER NUMBER.

SOME VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENTS HAVE MORE EQUIPMENT THAN OTHERS AND HAVE ACQUIRED THIS EQUIPMENT IN MANY WAYS WHILE OTHER DEPARTMENTS HAVE LITTLE EQUIPMENT OR KNOWLEDGE OF HOW TO ACQUIRE ADDITIONAL EQUIPMENT EITHER THROUGH THEIR OWN EFFORTS OR THROUGH THEIR MUNICIPAL UNITS.

THE COMMITTEE, FOLLOWING AN INDEPTH SCRUTINY OF ALL THE INFORMATION BROUGHT FORWARD THROUGH ITS OWN INVESTIGATIONS AND THROUGH THE PUBLIC HEARING PROCESS, HAS DEVELOPED ITS MAIN PRIORITIES.

THE COMMITTEE BELIEVES <u>TRAINING</u> TO BE OVERWHELMINGLY THE COMMON NEED FOR ALL DEPARTMENTS THROUGHOUT THE PROVINCE. NO ONE CAN EVER ANSWER THE QUESTION, "HOW MUCH TRAINING IS ENOUGH TRAINING?", BUT FEW WOULD INDICATE THEY HAD MORE THAN NECESSARY.

THIS COMMITTEE, WHEN MEETING WITH THE LOCAL DEPARTMENTS, HAS BEEN TREMENDOUSLY IMPRESSED BY THEIR EFFORTS AT ARRANGING REGULAR TRAINING SESSIONS THROUGHOUT THE WEEK AND ON WEEKENDS. MANY DEPARTMENTS DEVISE AND PARTICIPATE IN TOURNAMENTS AND DRILLS DESIGNED TO FOSTER THE GOAL OF A BETTER TRAINED FIREFIGHTER. SOME DEPARTMENTS HAVE PREPARED TRAINING SITES WITH TOWERS AND BURNING AREAS SO THAT THEY CAN AUGMENT THE CENTRAL TRAINING AT WAVERLEY. OUR EMPHASIS ON TRAINING THUS IS DERIVED FROM THE SPIRIT EXHIBITED BY THE VOLUNTEERS AND THEIR STRESS THAT THEY SEEK ADDITIONAL HELP IN THIS AREA AND IS NO CRITICISM OF THEIR EFFORTS TO DATE.

WE HAVE MADE RECOMMENDATIONS IN OTHER AREAS BESIDES "TRAINING". HOPEFULLY, THESE WILL ASSIST THE FIRE SERVICE BUT WE FIRMLY BELIEVE, AS A COMMITTEE, OUR TASK WILL HAVE BEEN WORTHWHILE IF OVER THE NEXT FIVE YEARS WE HAVE BEEN ABLE TO IMPROVE THE KNOWLEDGE AND TECHNIQUE OF OUR VOLUNTEERS.

WITH THAT THOUGHT IN MIND WE SUBMIT THE FOLLOWING RECOMMENDATIONS FOR YOUR CONSIDERATION:

AS NOTED, IT IS THE OPINION OF THIS COMMITTEE THAT TRAINING DESERVES TO BE A FIRST PRIORITY WHEN EXAMINING THE NEEDS OF THE VOLUNTEER FIRE SERVICE IN NOVA SCOTIA.

EQUIPMENT IS USELESS WITHOUT THE KNOWLEDGE ON HOW TO USE IT, FIRE FIGHTING TECHNIQUES CAN BE THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN SUCCESS AND FAILURE, SATISFACTION AND FRUSTRATION AND PERHAPS MOST IMPORTANTLY LIFE AND DEATH.

FIRES IN BUILDINGS WITH NEW MATERIALS INVOLVING SYNTHETIC MATERIALS RELEASE PRODUCTS OF COMBUSTION WHICH WERE PREVIOUSLY UNKNOWN. SUCH PRODUCTS AS HYDROGEN CYANIDE, NITROGEN DIOXIDE AND HALOGEN ACID GASES ARE UNKNOWN TO THE MAJORITY OF US AND THEIR SIGNIFICANCE MUST BE UNDERSTOOD THROUGH EDUCATION AND TRAINING.

"ONE WHIFF AND YOU'RE DEAD", IS A DRAMATIC STATEMENT BY AN INSTRUCTOR BUT IT CAN SERVE TO IMPRESS UPON AND BRING HOME TO A FIREFIGHTER AN AWARENESS OF THE REAL DANGER THAT EXISTS IN HAVING A QUICK PEEK INTO A BURNING HALLWAY. SOME MATERIALS CAN BE FATAL IN CONCENTRATIONS AS SMALL AS 100 PARTS PER MILLION FOR A PERIOD OF LESS THAN ONE MINUTE.

THE PROVINCE OF NOVA SCOTIA HAS, IN THE PAST, PROVIDED MONEY FOR THE USE OF THE FIRE SCHOOL AT WAVERLEY AS INDICATED BY THE FOLLOWING:

1983 - 1984	$60,000.00
1982 - 1983	90,000.00
1981 - 1982	60,000.00
1980 - 1981	60,000.00
1979 - 1980	30,000.00
1978 - 1979	25,000.00
	111,479.92
1977 - 1978	25,000.00
	30,000.00
1976 - 1977	30,000.00
1975 - 1976	10,000.00
1974 - 1975	10,000.00
	169,000.00
1973 - 1974	10,000.00
TOTAL	$720,479.92

THE FIRE SCHOOL, IN TURN, HAS BUILT A TREMENDOUS FACILITY BY THE EFFORTS OF VOLUNTEERS AND HAS IMPROVED THE FIREFIGHTING STANDARDS IN THIS PROVINCE IMMEASURABLY. MEMBERS OF THE EXECUTIVE HAVE COUNSELLED AND ADVISED THIS COMMITTEE THROUGHOUT OUR STUDY AND HAVE MADE THREE FORMAL PRESENTATIONS.

THE FIRE SCHOOL IN WAVERLEY WAS ESTABLISHED IN 1967 BY THE HALIFAX COUNTY FIRE CHIEF'S ASSOCIATION AND HAS GROWN TO SERVICE THE ENTIRE PROVINCE. A BOARD OF DIRECTORS HAS BEEN ESTABLISHED CONSISTING OF ONE REPRESENTATIVE FROM EACH COUNTY IN NOVA SCOTIA, NINE DIRECTORS-AT-LARGE AND THE PROVINCIAL FIRE MARSHAL. IN ADDITION, THERE ARE 682 ACTIVE MEMBERS WHOSE STATED INTEREST IS UPGRADING THE FIRE SERVICE IN NOVA SCOTIA.

SINCE 1977, THE NOVA SCOTIA FIRE FIGHTERS SCHOOL HAS TRAINED TO NATIONAL FIRE PROTECTION ASSOCIATION STANDARDS AND TO DATE 533 FIREFIGHTERS HAVE WRITTEN CERTIFICATION EXAMINATIONS. THE SCHOOL HAS A ROSTER OF 24 "CERTIFIED" INSTRUCTORS AND 42 ASSISTANTS. DURING 1981, THEY CONTRIBUTED MORE THAN 2,500 HOURS OF VOLUNTEER TIME AND SERVICE.

THESE HOURS OF ON-SITE INSTRUCTION ARE HIGHLY COMMENDABLE, HOWEVER IN THE COMMITTEE'S OPINION, IT FALLS SHORT OF WHAT THE SCHOOL DESIRES TO PROVIDE AND SHORT OF WHAT THE FIRE SERVICE NEEDS.

THE FIRE SCHOOL HAS ATTEMPTED TO PROVIDE A FIELD EXTENSION PROGRAM TO TAKE THE TRAINING TO THE LOCAL AREAS. DURING 1983, THEY CONDUCTED 32 SESSIONS IN LOCAL AREAS ATTENDED BY 890 STUDENTS.

TO EXPAND THIS PROGRAM, WHICH IS A NOTED PRIORITY OF THE FIRE SCHOOL, WILL REQUIRE FUNDING TO PROVIDE FOR ADDITIONAL MANPOWER, EQUIPMENT AND FACILITIES.

THIS LOCALIZED TRAINING, USING THE EQUIPMENT ON SITE AND THE APPARATUS OF THE LOCAL FIRE DEPARTMENT, WILL DO MORE THAN MAKE THE STUDENTS AWARE OF THE PROPER OPERATING PROCEDURES. IT SHOULD WHET THEIR APPETITE FOR MORE TRAINING AS AN ADDITION TO THE AMOUNTS PREVIOUSLY REFERRED TO AND DEMONSTRATE THE NECESSITY OF BREATHING APPARATUS AND OTHER SAFETY EQUIPMENT NECESSARY BEFORE A GROUP CAN PERFORM AS EFFECTIVE SAFE FIREFIGHTERS.

THE PROVISION OF SUCH EQUIPMENT AND PERSONNEL WILL BE EXPENSIVE. THE SCHOOL HAS PROVIDED THE FOLLOWING ESTIMATE FOR CAPITAL EQUIPMENT IN THE FIRST YEAR:

EQUIPMENT ESTIMATES

TRUCK :	SUPER CAB F250 3/4 T	$16,000.00
	GAS 460 CREW CAB 1 T	14,500.00
TRAILER :		35,000.00
	TOTAL:	$ 51,000.00

1 x	GENERATOR	$ 1,193.00
1 X	AIR COMPRESSOR & CASCADE SYSTEM	11,959.30
1 X	PORTABLE PUMP	1,521.30
20 X	BREATHING APPARATUS (1248-20)	24,964.00
20 X	PROTECTIVE CLOTHING APPLIANCES, NOZZLES ETC.	3,591.60
		5,000.00
1000' X	2½ " HOSE	2,614.00
500' X	1½ " HOSE	957.50
1 X	24' EXTENSION LADDER PLUS 12' ROOF LADDER	1,060.70
10 X	#20 D.C.P. EXTINGUISHERS	2,155.00
	HAND TOOLS	1,000.00
4 X	HAND LIGHTS AND CHARGES	881.80
1 X	STRETCHER & EQUIPMENT	329.50
2 X	TARPAULINS (9x12)	328.40
	MISCELLANEOUS	500.00
	AUDIO VISUAL EQUIPMENT	2,500.00
	SCREENS, FILMS, SLIDES	2,500.00
	TOTAL	$114,056.10

INSTRUCTORS

UNIFORMS (3) x 2		360.00
PROTECTIVE CLOTHING		600.00
	TOTAL	$960.00

OVERALL TOTAL $115,016.10

IN ADDITION TO THE EXPENSES PROPOSED FOR THE EQUIPMENT USED IN THE EXTENSION PROGRAM, THE FIREFIGHTER SCHOOL HAVE PROPOSED THEIR YEARLY OPERATING BUDGET WILL BE:

TWO INSTRUCTORS @ $25,000.00	$50.000.00
BENEFITS @ 18 %	9,000.00
TRUCK-FUEL, OIL, MAINTENANCE & INSURANCE	8,000.00
MEALS	3,640.00
ACCOMMODATIONS	2,000.00
EXPENDABLES (AFFF FOAM & EXTINGUISHERS)	10,000.00
VEHICLE REPLACEMENT FUND BASED ON 5 YEAR LIFE ESTIMATE	6,000.00
TOTAL	$88,640.00

N.B. THE ABOVE FIGURES ARE ESTIMATES ONLY, BASED ON AVAILABLE INFORMATION.

WHILE IT IS A MAJOR EXPENDITURE, THE COMMITTEE BELIEVES THAT IT IS A NECESSARY ONE. WE BELIEVE THESE EXPEDITURES WILL PROVIDE THE BEST POSSIBLE PROGRAM FOR THE FIRE SERVICE IN THE PROVINCE FOR THE AMOUNT OF MONEY BEING COMMITTED.

A COMMITMENT FOR SUCH MAJOR EXPENDITURES IN PROVIDING TRAINING LIMITS SOMEWHAT THE FLEXIBILITY DESIRED IN OTHER AREAS EXAMINED BY THE COMMITTEE BUT IN OUR OPINION SUCH A COMPROMISE IS ESSENTIAL AND A NECESSARY STEP FORWARD FOR THE VOLUNTEER FIRE SERVICE IN NOVA SCOTIA.

THEREFORE THIS COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS:

(1) THAT THE PROVINCE OF NOVA SCOTIA SHOULD PROVIDE FUNDING TO THE NOVA SCOTIA FIREFIGHTERS SCHOOL AT WAVERLEY IN A SUFFICIENT AMOUNT TO ENABLE THEM TO INTRODUCE A FIELD EXTENSION PROGRAM OF THE TYPE OUTLINED IN THEIR SUBMISSION.

WE BELIEVE THAT THE TYPE OF TRAINING PROGRAM PROPOSED WILL ENCOURAGE MORE FIREFIGHTERS TO SEEK ADVANCED TRAINING AT THE SCHOOL IN WAVERLEY AND THUS IT WILL NOT ELIMINATE IN ANY WAY THE NEED FOR THE FACILITY.

THEREFORE THIS COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS:

(2) THE FUNDING TO THE NOVA SCOTIA FIRE FIGHTER'S SCHOOL AT WAVERLEY BE CONTINUED ON A YEARLY BASIS SUBJECT TO THE BUDGETARY PROCESS.

THE NOVA SCOTIA FIREFIGHTERS SCHOOL HAS ALSO PROPOSED A JOINT COMMITTEE CONSISTING OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE SCHOOL, THE FIRE MARSHAL'S OFFICE AND A REPRESENTATIVE FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF LABOUR AND MANPOWER AND THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION TO OVERSEE THE CURRICULUM AND DELIVERY OF THE "FIREFIGHTER CERTIFICATION PROGRAM".

THE SCHOOL HAS REQUESTED THE PROVINCE, THROUGH THE APPROPRIATE MINISTERS, TO FORMALLY RECOGNIZE THE COMPLETION OF COURSES. THE SCHOOL ALSO STATED THAT IT WAS NOT NECESSARY TO MAKE "FIREFIGHTING" A TRADE, AT THIS TIME. IN ADDITION, THE COMMITTEE HAS NOTED THE CERTIFICATES PROVIDED TO FIREFIGHTERS IN MANITOBA SUCH AS THE ONE NOTED IN APPENDIX "A" TO THIS REPORT.

IN A SUPPLEMENT TO THEIR BRIEF ON THE FIELD EXTENSION PROGRAM, THE FIRE SCHOOL HAS RECOMMENDED THAT THE JOINT COMMITTEE BE FURTHER EMPOWERED TO ASSIST IN THE BUDGETARY PROCESS AND THAT THE SCHOOL WILL SUBMIT A YEARLY BUDGET AND A YEARLY FINANCIAL STATEMENT.

THE COMMITTEE HAS CLOSELY EXAMINED THESE PROPOSALS AS SUBMITTED BY THE FIRE SCHOOL IN WAVERLEY.

THEREFORE THIS COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS:

(3) THAT THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION AND THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND MANPOWER JOINTLY RECOGNIZE, BY ISSUANCE OF A CERTIFICATE THOSE FIREFIGHTERS WHOM THE NOVA SCOTIA FIRE SCHOOL ATTESTS HAVE SATISFACTORILY COMPLETED VARIOUS TRAINING LEVELS.

(4) THAT A JOINT COMMITTEE BE ESTABLISHED WITH REPRESENTATIVES FROM THE NOVA SCOTIA FIRE SCHOOL, THE FIRE MARSHAL'S OFFICE AND THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND LABOUR AND MANPOWER TO ASSIST IN CURRICULUM, DELIVERY OF PROGRAMS AND TO PARTICIPATE IN THE BUDGETARY PROCESS SO AS TO ASSIST IN THE NORMAL BUDGETARY PROCESS REQUIRED FOR OTHER GOVERNMENT EXPENDITURES.

DEPENDING ON THE RESULTS OF THE FIELD EXTENSION PROGRAM, WE HOPE THIS, IN TURN, WILL LEAD TO SPECIFIC TRAINING FOR VOLUNTEER FIREMEN IN AREAS SUCH AS VEHICULAR EXTRACTION AND PARA-MEDICAL TRAINING. THE SAINT JOHN'S AMBULANCE SUBMISSION HAS BEEN NOTED IN THE COMMITTEE'S DELIBERATIONS, AND WE BELIEVE THEIR TRAINING WOULD BE EXTREMELY BENEFICIAL.

THEREFORE THIS COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS:

(5) THE JOINT COMMITTEE ATTEMPT TO PROMOTE AND COOPERATE IN THE TRAINING OF VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTERS IN C.P.R. TECHNIQUES.

THE BUILDING CODE ACT S.N.S. 1977, CH.5 AS AMENDED, HAS NOT YET BEEN PROCLAIMED. SHOULD IT COME INTO FORCE, IT WOULD, IN THE OPINION OF THIS COMMITTEE, PROVIDE FOR A UNIFORM BUILDING CODE THROUGHOUT THE PROVINCE WHICH WOULD BE ENFORCED BY THE COUNCIL OF EACH MUNICIPALITY.

PRESENTLY THERE IS A GREAT DIVERSITY AS INDICATED BY THE FOLLOWING TABLE:

NO BUILDING CODE

TOWNS	MUNICIPALITIES	VILLAGES
CLARK'S HARBOUR	CHESTER	CHESTER
LOCKEPORT	SHELBURNE	MILTON
		BROOKLYN

BUILDING PARTIAL BY-LAW

TOWNS	MUNICIPALITIES	VILLAGES
	QUEENS	

BUILDING BY-LAW ONLY

TOWNS	MUNICIPALITIES	VILLAGES
BERWICK	CAPE BRETON	
GLACE BAY	HANTS EAST	
LIVERPOOL		
MAHONE BAY		
SHELBURNE		
SPRINGHILL		
SYDNEY MINES		
YARMOUTH		

1965 NATIONAL BUILDING CODE

TOWNS	MUNICIPALITIES	VILLAGES
BEDFORD	HALIFAX	UPLANDS PARK

1970 NATIONAL BUILDING CODE

TOWNS	MUNICIPALITIES	VILLAGES
BRIDGETOWN	ANNAPOLIS	BIBLE HILL
OXFORD	ST. MARY'S	GREENWOOD
	YARMOUTH	LAWRENCETOWN
		TATAMAGOUCHE

1975 National Building Code

Towns	Municipalities	Villages
Amherst	Antigonish	Dover
Canso	Argyle	Freeport
Dominion	Clare	Havre Boucher
Hantsport	Lunenburg	Hazel Hill
Mulgrave		Tiverton
		Westport
		Weymouth
		Hebbville

1977 National Building Code

Towns	Municipalities	Villages
Antigonish	Barrington	Aylesford
Louisburg	Cumberland	Baddeck
Lunenburg	Hants West	Cambridge
New Waterford	Kings	Canning
North Sydney	Richmond	Grafton
Parrsboro		Kingston
Stewiacke		New Minas
		Port Williams
		Pugwash
		River Hebert
		St. Peter's
		Waterville
		Falmouth

1980 National Building Code

Towns	Municipalities	Cities
Annapolis Royal	Colchester	Dartmouth
Bridgewater	Digby	
Digby	Guysborough	
Kentville	Inverness	
Middleton	Pictou	
New Glasgow	Victoria	
Pictou		
Port Hawkesbury		
Stellarton		
Trenton		
Truro		
Westville		
Windsor		
Wolfville		

WHEN THERE ARE INCONSISTENT LOCAL STANDARDS, IT POSES DIFFICULTIES FOR TRADESMAN, BUILDERS AND FOR THE ENFORCEMENT OF THE NECESSARY MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS NEEDED TO PREVENT UNSAFE AND UNINHABITABLE BUILDINGS.

THE PRESENT SYSTEM OF HAVING PLANS APPROVED BY THE FIRE MARSHAL'S OFFICE AND THE FIRE MARSHAL'S ADOPTION OF THE LATEST STANDARDS IN THE BUILDING CODE ON A PROVINCE WIDE BASIS FOR THOSE STRUCTURES NOT EXEMPTED UNDER THE ACT CAN INTRODUCE A FURTHER ELEMENT OF CONFUSION IF THERE ARE DIFFERENT LOCAL BY-LAWS.

ALL VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENTS, WITH ONE EXCEPTION, WHICH MADE SUBMISSIONS TO THIS COMMITTEE ON THIS ISSUE ASKED THAT THERE BE A PROVINCIAL BUILDING CODE.

THE PROCLAMATION OF THE PRESENT CODE WOULD ENABLE INSPECTION OF PLANS AND SUPERVISION OF CONSTRUCTION TO BE DONE AT A LOCAL MUNICIPAL LEVEL AND WOULD EASE THE ADMINISTRATIVE PROBLEMS OF ENFORCEMENT.

THEREFORE THIS COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS:

(6) THE BUILDING CODE ACT, S.N.S. 1977 BE PROCLAIMED INTO LAW.

Funding

DURING THE PUBLIC HEARING PROCESS CONDUCTED BY THIS COMMITTEE ACROSS THE PROVINCE, MANY VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENTS OUTLINED THEIR CONCERNS ON FUNDING.

THE COST OF EQUIPPING A NEW VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT OF MEDIUM SIZE WITH ONE PUMPER TRUCK, A TANKER TRUCK AND THE NECESSARY AUXILIARY EQUIPMENT EXCLUSIVE OF ANY BUILDING IS ESTIMATED TO BE IN EXCESS OF $150,000.00.

IN ORDER TO ESTABLISH A DEPARTMENT, IT IS OFTEN NECESSARY FOR THOSE FIREFIGHTERS TO GO INTO DEBT BY BORROWING THE FUNDS TO PURCHASE EQUIPMENT AND TO REPAY THE LOANS AT A LATER DATE.

CANADA HAS RECENTLY HAD A PERIOD OF VERY HIGH INTEREST RATES, AT LEAST BY HISTORIC STANDARDS. THIS HIGH INTEREST RATE PERIOD HAS IMPROVED SOMEWHAT OF LATE, HOWEVER IT IS STILL A VERY COSTLY PROCESS TO REPAY A LOAN AT HIGH RATES.

THIS COMMITTEE, PERHAPS NOT UNEXPECTEDLY, HAS RECEIVED MANY SUBMISSIONS REQUESTING THAT A LOAN AGENCY BE ESTABLISHED FOR VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTERS SO THAT FUNDS COULD BE BORROWED AT LOWER RATES WHICH WOULD IN ITSELF ASSIST VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENTS IN REPAYING MONEY BORROWED TO PURCHASE EQUIPMENT.

ADDITIONALLY IN THEIR SUBMISSIONS TO THE COMMITTEE, MANY DEPARTMENTS HAVE ADVISED US THAT WHILE THEY THEMSELVES HAVE MADE IT ON THEIR OWN AND THAT WHILE THEY COULD ALWAYS USE MORE EQUIPMENT, THEY SUGGESTED THE EMPHASIS SHOULD BE PUT ON START UP ASSISTANCE FOR NEW DEPARTMENTS.

THIS COMMITTEE WAS IMPRESSED BY AND SHARES THE CONCERNS EXPRESSED BY THE VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENTS FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF NEW DEPARTMENTS.

WE ARE CONSCIOUS HOWEVER, THE RESPONSIBILITY FOR FIRE PROTECTION BELONGS PRIMARILY TO THE LOCAL MUNICIPAL UNIT; THE SUBMISSIONS FROM THE UNION OF NOVA SCOTIA MUNICIPALITIES STRESS THIS RESPONSIBILITY SHOULD REMAIN WITH THOSE UNITS.

THE TOWNS ACT, THE MUNICIPAL ACT, AND THE VILLAGE SERVICES ACT IMPOSE THE POWER, RESPONSIBILITY AND AUTHORITY OF THESE UNITS.

IN THE MAJORITY OF AREAS, EXCLUDING HALIFAX AND DARTMOUTH, THE COMPLEMENT OF FIREFIGHTERS IS LARGELY VOLUNTEER AND A GREAT PORTION OF THE FUNDS RAISED IS DONE SO THROUGH THE EFFORTS OF VOLUNTEERS. MANY OF THOSE VOLUNTEERS EXPRESSED TO THIS COMMITTEE THE AMICABLE NATURE OF THEIR RELATIONS WITH THE LOCAL MUNICIPAL AUTHORITY AND COMMENDED THEM FOR THEIR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE AND MORAL SUPPORT.

FOR THOSE MUNICIPAL UNITS, THE UNCONDITIONAL APPROACH TO GRANTS, WHICH ALLOWS MUNICIPAL GOVERNMENTS TO DETERMINE THEIR OWN PRIORITIES, IS WORKING WELL. YET SOME MUNICIPAL AREAS ARE REMISS AND TO AN EXTENT THEIR FAILURE TO PROPERLY SUPPORT THEIR VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENTS REFLECTS ON ALL MUNICIPAL UNITS.

THE GRAPHS LOCATED IN THE SURVEY ATTACHED HERETO AS APPENDIX "B" DEMONSTRATE THAT THERE HAS BEEN A FAILURE BY SOME MUNICIPAL UNITS IN MAINTAINING OR INCREASING SUPPORT TO VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENTS, ALTHOUGH OVERALL PROVINCIAL FUNDING HAS INCREASED.

THE COMMITTEE NOTES THE UNION OF NOVA SCOTIA MUNICIPALITIES SUPPORTS THE PRESENT SYSTEM OF UNCONDITIONAL MUNICIPAL GRANTS AND THE PROCEDURES THROUGH THE MUNICIPAL FINANCE CORPORATION FOR BORROWING.

THE UNION HAS EXTENDED TO THE VOLUNTEERS A COMMITMENT "TO PROVIDE FOR THEM ADEQUATELY WITHIN THE FRAMEWORK OF MUNICIPAL GOVERNMENT AND THE RESOURCES AVAILABLE TO THE MUNICIPAL UNITS".

SOME VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENTS AND HOPEFULLY MOST MUNICIPALITIES ARE AWARE THAT VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENTS CAN OBTAIN A PREFERRED INTEREST RATE FOR THE PURCHASE OF EQUIPMENT AND CONSTRUCTION BUILDINGS.

THE PROCEDURES ARE UTILIZED TO SOME EXTENT NOW BUT WITH THE PROPER AWARENESS AND COOPERATION OF ALL PARTIES CONCERNED, IT COULD BE OF MORE BENEFIT TO VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENTS IN THE FUTURE.

THE MUNICIPAL FINANCE CORPORATION, UTILIZING COMBINED BORROWING RESOURCES AND EXPERTISE CAN OBTAIN PREFERENTIAL RATES FOR LOANS.

THE COMMITTEE HAS BEEN ADVISED BY MR. L.W. LACUSTA, CHAIRMAN AND CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER, MUNICIPAL FINANCE CORPORATION, OF THE PROCEDURES TO BE FOLLOWED IN BORROWING THROUGH THIS CENTRAL BORROWING AUTHORITY.

FIRSTLY, THE VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT DETERMINES AND RECOMMENDS THEIR BORROWING REQUIREMENTS AND DEVISES A PROJECTED REPAYMENT PLAN AND THEN SUBMITS IT TO THE MUNICIPALITY INVOLVED WITH A REQUEST FOR APPROVAL.

THE MUNICIPALITY, WITH THE APPROVAL OF THE DEPARTMENT OF MUNICIPAL AFFAIRS, CAN ARRANGE "BRIDGE" FINANCING IF THERE IS AN IMMEDIATE NEED FOR THE FUNDS OR CAN FORWARD THE REQUEST TO THE DEPARTMENT OF MUNICIPAL AFFAIRS FOR APPROVAL AND REFERRAL TO THE MUNICIPAL FINANCE CORPORATION FOR INCLUSION IN THE NEXT GENERAL BORROWING TO BE DONE BY THE CORPORATION. THIS ENSURES THE CENTRAL BORROWING RATE WILL BE ACHIEVED.

THE COMMITTEE BELIEVES THAT TO ESTABLISH A SEPARATE AGENCY DUPLICATING THESE PROCEDURES WOULD CREATE UNNECESSARY STRUCTURES AND A BUREAUCRACY WHICH WOULD BE, IN OUR OPINION, LESS EFFICIENT AND SKILLED THAN THE PRESENT VERY IMPRESSIVE ONE IN EXISTENCE.

THEREFORE THIS COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS:

(7) THE RESOURCES OF THE MUNICIPAL FINANCE CORPORATION BE UTILIZED BY VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENTS AND THEIR MUNICIPAL UNITS FOR THEIR BORROWING NEEDS.

THE COMMITTEE IS COGNIZANT THAT NOT ALL MUNICIPAL UNITS WILL CHOOSE TO ASSIST THEIR VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENTS. ANY UNWARRANTED REFUSAL IS, IN THE OPINION OF THIS COMMITTEE, AN ABDICATION OF THEIR LEGITIMATE RESPONSIBILITIES. WE STRONGLY URGE THE UNION OF NOVA SCOTIA MUNICIPALITIES TO STRESS WITH THEIR MEMBERS THE IMPORTANCE OF SUCH ASSISTANCE SINCE THE UNION RECOGNIZES THAT IF THESE VOLUNTEERS REDUCE OR STOP THEIR EFFORTS, IT WOULD IMPOSE A TREMENDOUS, AND INDEED UNNECESSARY AND UNBEARABLE, FINANCIAL BURDEN TO REPLACE THE VOLUNTEER FIRE SERVICE.

THE COMMITTEE HAS ALSO, DURING ITS PROCEEDINGS, FORMULATED SEVERAL ADDITIONAL RECOMMENDATIONS WHICH MAY HELP VOLUNTEERS IN RAISING FUNDS. ONE DEPARTMENT CHRONICLED THE STORY OF HOW THEY SOUGHT A CHARITABLE STATUS FOR INCOME TAX PURPOSES AND AFTER TWO YEARS OF EFFORT AND LAWYER'S ASSISTANCE STILL HAD NO CONCRETE RESULTS.

OBVIOUSLY FUND RAISING WOULD BECOME MUCH EASIER IF DONATIONS TO VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENTS WERE TAX EXEMPT. THE COMMITTEE HAS BEEN ADVISED THAT IF DONATIONS ARE MADE TO A MUNICIPALITY AND DESIGNATED FOR THE PURCHASE OF FIRE EQUIPMENT FOR VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT ACTIVITIES, THEN THIS COULD BE A VALID DEDUCTION FROM INCOME TAX.

<u>THEREFORE THIS COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS</u>:

(8) MUNICIPALITIES PERMIT DEDUCTIONS TO BE MADE TO THEM DESIGNATED FOR VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENTS SO THAT THE DONOR HAS THE BENEFIT OF AN INCOME TAX DEDUCTION.

THEREFORE THIS COMMITTEE ALSO RECOMMENDS:

(9) THE MINISTER OF FINANCE FOR THE PROVINCE OF NOVA SCOTIA CONTACT AND REQUEST THAT HIS FEDERAL COUNTERPART ATTEMPT TO SIMPLIFY THE GRANTING OF TAX NUMBERS SO THAT VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENTS CAN OBTAIN CHARITABLE STATUS FOR INCOME TAX PURPOSES ON THEIR OWN WITHOUT UNDUE DELAY.

WHILE THE COMMITTEE IS HOPEFUL RECOMMENDATIONS (8) AND (9) WILL ASSIST ESTABLISHED AND NEWLY FORMED DEPARTMENTS, WE ARE ALSO AWARE OF THE NEED TO PERSUADE MUNICIPALITIES TO FUND AND ENCOURAGE VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENTS IN THEIR INFANCY.

WE BELIEVE THAT A FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTION BY THE PROVINCE MAY BE THE INCENTIVE NEEDED TO ENCOURAGE THE MUNICIPAL UNIT WHICH MIGHT NOT OTHERWISE ASSIST.

THEREFORE THIS COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS:

(10) THE PROVINCE OF NOVA SCOTIA PROVIDE FOR A GRANT TO MUNICIPAL UNITS WHO ASSIST NEWLY FORMED VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENTS IN THE PURCHASE OF EQUIPMENT.

THE COMMITTEE ALSO RECOMMENDS:

(11) THE GRANT BE 25% OF THE FUNDS PROVIDED BY THE MUNICIPALITY UP TO A MAXIMUM OF $10,000.00.

ACCEPTANCE OF THESE RECOMMENDATIONS WOULD MEAN A NEW VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT, IF SUPPORTED FULLY, COULD RECEIVE $40,000.00 AS A START UP GRANT WHICH IN OUR OPINION WOULD BE OF IMMENSE BENEFIT TO NEWLY FORMED DEPARTMENTS.

EXISTING VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENTS WHO HAVE A SOLID CADRE OF SUPPORT AND WHO HAVE ACQUIRED FUND RAISING EXPERTISE, FIRE FIGHTING TRAINING, EQUIPMENT AND BUILDINGS CERTAINLY NEED ENCOURAGEMENT BUT AS NOTED THE FIRE SERVICE HAS, IN BRIEFS TO THIS COMMITTEE, STRESSED THE EMPHASIS SHOULD BE ON THE NEEDS OF NEWLY FORMED DEPARTMENTS.

Fire Marshal

THE NOVA SCOTIA FIRE MARSHAL HAS A GREAT DEAL OF RESPONSIBILITY IMPOSED BOTH BY LEGISLATION AND TO A LARGE EXTENT BY THE CUSTOMS WHICH HAVE DEVELOPED AROUND HIS OFFICE.

THE FIRE MARSHAL HAS RESPONSIBILITIES IN SUCH AREAS AS: LIGHTNING ROD INSPECTION; FIREWORKS; BUILDING PLAN INSPECTION; SPRINKLERS; AS WELL AS FIRE EDUCATION; AND PREVENTION. THE FIRE MARSHAL HAS A ROLE IN EMO, THE TRANSPORTATION OF DANGEROUS GOODS AND AS AN ADVISOR TO SEVERAL DEPARTMENTS AND REGULATING AGENCIES.

THE ROLE THAT VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENTS IN THE PROVINCE EXPECT FROM THIS OFFICE APPEARS TO BE A DIFFERENT ONE. MANY DEPARTMENTS WANT HIS INVOLVEMENT TO BE CONCENTRATED IN THE TRAINING AREAS. THEY WANT ADVICE, SUGGESTIONS AND OFTEN JUST INFORMATION.

IT WOULD APPEAR MORE EMPHASIS SHOULD BE CONCENTRATED ON THESE AREAS AS VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENTS HAVE A DEMONSTRATED NEED FOR A LIAISON WITH GOVERNMENT, THE TRAINING SCHOOL AND OTHER AGENCIES SUCH AS CSA AND THE BUILDING CODE AND FIRE CODE AUTHORITIES.

THE COMMITTEE BELIEVES THAT A CHANGE IN EMPHASIS WILL INEVITABLY FOLLOW FROM THE PROCLAMATION OF THE PROVINCIAL BUILDING CODE AND THE INVOLVEMENT OF HIS OFFICE IN THE JOINT COMMITTEE FOR THE NOVA SCOTIA FIREFIGHTERS SCHOOL AT WAVERLEY.

ITEMS SUCH AS LIGHTNING ROD INSPECTION AND ASSISTANCE TO POLICE AUTHORITIES SHOULD BE REVIEWED AND TRANSFERRED TO OTHER DEPARTMENTS SUCH AS CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND THE ATTORNEY GENERAL. THE RESOURCES FREED BY THIS REALIGNMENT COULD THEN BE CONCENTRATED ON FIRE PREVENTION, EDUCATION, TRAINING AND LIAISON WITH VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENTS.

THIS COMMITTEE IN REVIEWING THE SUBMISSIONS MADE TO IT HAVE REACHED SEVERAL SPECIFIC CONCLUSIONS BUT WE ALSO SUGGEST THAT A GENERAL STUDY OF THE ROLE OF THE FIRE MARSHAL IS IN ORDER.

THEREFORE THIS COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS:

(12) THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND MANPOWER REVIEW THE ROLE OF THE FIRE MARSHAL'S OFFICE AND THE FIRE PREVENTION ACT TO DETERMINE WHICH CHANGES CAN BE MADE TO INCREASE THE EMPHASIS ON EDUCATION, FIRE PREVENTION AND TO PROMOTE BETTER LIAISON AND INFORMATION TO THE VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTERS OF THIS PROVINCE.

SEVERAL FIRE CHIEFS NOTED THE REQUIREMENTS OF THE FIRE PREVENTION ACT WHICH REQUIRES THEM TO PREPARE REPORTS AND SUBMIT THEM TO THE FIRE MARSHAL'S OFFICE. MANY SPECIFICALLY INDICATED THAT THEY KNOW IT IS NECESSARY TO FILE REPORTS BUT THAT THE COST OF POSTAGE IS, AT THE MINIMUM, AN IRRITANT AND IN SOME CASES AN EXPENSE THAT THEY BELIEVE THEY CANNOT AFFORD.

THEREFORE THIS COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS:

(13) THE FIRE MARSHAL'S OFFICE SHOULD PREPARE AND DISTRIBUTE PRE-STAMPED BUSINESS REPLY ADDRESSED ENVELOPES TO THE LOCAL FIRE CHIEFS TO PERMIT THEM TO SUBMIT REPORTS AND ELIMINATE ANY POSTAL EXPENSE.

THE COMMITTEE NOTED, AND IN SEVERAL SUBMISSIONS HAVE HAD THEIR THOUGHTS CONFIRMED, THAT THERE SHOULD BE A HANDBOOK FOR LOCAL FIRE CHIEFS WHO ACT AS ASSISTANTS TO THE FIRE MARSHAL.

MANY FIRE CHIEFS AND THEIR FIREFIGHTERS STATED THEY ARE CONFUSED AS TO THEIR RIGHTS AND DUTIES AND WOULD LIKE TO SEE THE DEPUTY FIRE MARSHAL ON A MORE FREQUENT BASIS WHEN THEY ARE IN THEIR AREA. THESE CHIEFS ALSO SUGGESTED THAT MORE INFORMATION ON TRAINING, EQUIPMENT, FUNDING, INCORPORATION, BINGO, TAXES ETC. WOULD BE OF IMMENSE ASSISTANCE TO THEM. THIS COMMITTEE AGREES WITH THE FIRE CHIEFS ON THESE MATTERS.

THEREFORE THIS COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS:

(14) A. THE FIRE MARSHAL, REPRESENTATIVES FROM DEPARTMENTS CONCERNED AND THE NOVA SCOTIA FIRE ADVISORY COUNCIL STUDY AND PREPARE A LOOSE LEAF CONSOLIDATION OF ALL FIRE RELATED LEGISLATION AND PROVISIONS OF OTHER ACTS WHICH ARE RELEVANT.

(14) B. THE CONSOLIDATION OF FIRE-RELATED LEGISLATION BE DISTRIBUTED TO EACH VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT.

(14) C. THE CONSOLIDATION BE UPDATED AS REQUIRED AND THE UPDATED VERSION BE FORWARDED TO EACH DEPARTMENT.

(14) D. THE PUBLICATION ISSUED QUARTERLY BY THE FIRE MARSHAL BE REDESIGNED AND IT INCLUDE MORE SPECIFIC INFORMATION AND ADVICE FOR LOCAL FIRE CHIEFS.

(14) E. THAT QUESTIONS OF A GENERAL NATURE RECEIVED AT THE OFFICE OF THE FIRE MARSHAL BE INCLUDED WITH THE RESPONSE IN THIS PUBLICATION.

(14) F. ALL DEPUTIES AND THE FIRE MARSHAL ATTEMPT TO ADVISE THE LOCAL CHIEFS WHEN THEY INTEND TO BE IN AN AREA SO THAT IF THE CHIEF SHOULD LIKE TO MEET AND DISCUSS MATTERS OF CONCERN, THIS CAN BE ARRANGED.

DURING THE PUBLIC HEARING PHASE OF THIS STUDY, SEVERAL VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENTS INFORMED THIS COMMITTEE THAT THEY RECEIVED EXCELLENT COOPERATION FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF LANDS AND FORESTS AND OTHER PROVINCIAL AGENCIES.

A FEW VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENTS NOTED THEIR BELIEF THAT SURPLUS EQUIPMENT, HAD IN SOME CASES, HOWEVER, BEEN DISPOSED OF WITHOUT NOTICE TO THE VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT WHEN THEY COULD HAVE USED THE ITEMS IN QUESTION.

THEREFORE THIS COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS:

(15) ALL GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS SHOULD CONSIDER THE NEEDS OF THE VOLUNTEER FIRE SERVICE WHEN DISPOSING OF SURPLUS EQUIPMENT AND PROVIDE THOSE DEPARTMENTS WITH ALL PERTINENT INFORMATION AS TO THE METHOD TO BE USED ON DISPOSING OF THESE ITEMS.

(16) IT IS ALSO SUGGESTED THAT THIS INFORMATION BE PROVIDED TO THE OFFICE OF THE FIRE MARSHAL IN ORDER THAT IT CAN BE INCLUDED IN HIS REGULAR INFORMATION SERVICE TO THE VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENTS.

THE NOVA SCOTIA FIRE ADVISORY COUNCIL HAS A LEGITIMATE ROLE TO PLAY IN OUR OPINION, SINCE IT IS A GROUP WITH A DIVERSE MEMBERSHIP. THE COMMITTEE BELIEVES THAT IT SHOULD CONTINUE AND THAT IT CAN SERVE AS A LEGITIMATE VOICE FOR THE FIRE SERVICE.

PROPOSALS FOR CHANGE IN DIRECTION FOR THE FIRE MARSHAL'S OFFICE AND REVIEWS OF THE FIRE PREVENTION ACT CAN BE IMPROVED WITH THEIR ADVICE.

HOWEVER, IN ORDER TO ENSURE THAT THE FIRE MARSHAL IS NOT PLACED IN AN EMBARRASSING POSITION, WE BELIEVE A CHANGE IN HIS ROLE IS NECESSARY.

THEREFORE THIS COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS:

(17) THE CHAIRMAN OF THE NOVA SCOTIA FIRE ADVISORY COUNCIL BE APPOINTED FROM THE RANKS OF ONE OF THE NON-GOVERNMENT MEMBERS.

(18) THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND MANPOWER SOLICIT THE VIEWS OF THE N. S. FIRE ADVISORY COUNCIL AS TO THE EMPHASIS TO BE ACCORDED TO THE VARIOUS ACTIVITIES OF THE FIRE MARSHAL'S OFFICE.

SUBMISSIONS MADE BY MANY RURAL VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENTS SUGGESTED THAT THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION SHOULD ASSIST THEM IN SNOW REMOVAL BUT THEY WERE AWARE THAT "ROADS" WERE A PRIORITY AND AGREED THAT WITHOUT THE ROADS BEING CLEAR THEY WOULD NOT BE MOBILE IN ANY EVENT.

HOWEVER, AS THE WORK PROGRESSES ON THE ROADS, THEY SUGGESTED STRONGLY THAT NEEDS OF THE COMMUNITY REQUIRED THAT THEIR EXIT BE CLEARED AND THAT IN RETURN THEY WOULD AGREE NOT TO SEEK ANY RECOMPENSE IF LAWNS, CURBS, ETC. SHOULD BE DAMAGED.

THEREFORE THIS COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS:

(19) THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION DRAFT AND CIRCULATE A POLICY FOR SNOW REMOVAL WHICH PERMITS THE OPERATOR TO CLEAR THE ENTRANCE LEADING TO A VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT.

THE VOLUNTEERS IN OUR COMMUNITIES OFTEN GO UNHERALDED AND NONE MORE SO THAN THE VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTERS. FOR MANY OF THEM THE ROLE OF A VOLUNTEER MEANS SACRIFICES IN FINANCES, SLEEP AND PERSONAL LEISURE WITH THE ONLY REWARD BEING A TRUE INNER SENSE OF ACCOMPLISHMENT.

MANY OF OUR CITIZENS ACCEPT THESE CONTRIBUTIONS WITHOUT QUESTION AND SOME PERHAPS EXPECT MORE THAN ANY VOLUNTEER CAN BE ASKED TO GIVE. WE, ON THIS COMMITTEE, BELIEVE RECOGNITION IS IN ORDER AND WE SPECIFICALLY COMMEND THE "LONG SERVICE AWARD" AS AN APPRECIATION TO THOSE VOLUNTEERS.

THE PRESENT SYSTEM SHOULD BE RETAINED BUT WE BELIEVE THE REQUIREMENT OF THIRTY YEARS SERVICE SHOULD BE REDUCED TO 25 YEARS - WHICH IS THE USUAL PERIOD OF TIME RECOGNIZED IN GOVERNMENT AND INDUSTRY SERVICE.

ADDITIONALLY, WE BELIEVE A CERTIFICATE OF ACHIEVEMENT SHOULD BE IMPLEMENTED WHEN A LOCAL FIRE CHIEF ADVISES THAT ONE OF HIS VOLUNTEERS HAS RETIRED WITH MORE THAN TEN BUT LESS THAN 25 YEARS OF SERVICE.

THEREFORE THIS COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS:

(20) THE PERIOD OF TIME FOR ELEGIBILITY FOR THE FIRE SERVICE MEDAL SHOULD BE REDUCED TO TWENTY-FIVE YEARS.

(21) A TEN YEAR CERTIFICATE OF ACHIEVEMENT BE CONFERRED ON THOSE VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTERS WHO RETIRE WITH BETWEEN TEN AND TWENTY-FIVE YEARS OF SERVICE.

A NUMBER OF VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENTS HAVE SUGGESTED THAT THE VOLUNTEER FIRE SERVICES ACT, REFERRED TO IN OTHER JURISDICTIONS AS, "GOOD SAMARITAN LEGISLATION", SHOULD BE AMENDED.

THE DEFINITION OF "VOLUNTEER" IN THIS ACT MEANS ANY INDIVIDUAL NOT IN THE RECEIPT OF FEES, WAGES OR SALARY FOR SERVICES OR ASSISTANCE WITHIN THE MEANING OF THIS ACT.

THIS IS DESIGNED TO SET A STANDARD OF GROSS NEGLIGENCE AS COMPARED TO ORDINARY NEGLIGENCE FOR THE SERVICES RENDERED BY THE VOLUNTEER. HOWEVER, THERE IS THE POSSIBILITY THAT THOSE FEW VOLUNTEERS WHO RECEIVE VERY MODEST STIPENDS COULD BE CONSIDERED AS BEING IN RECEIPT OF FEES, WAGES OR SALARY FOR THEIR SERVICES OR ASSISTANCE AND ACCORDINGLY WOULD NOT RECEIVE THE PROTECTION OF THE ACT.

THEREFORE THIS COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS:

(22) THE VOLUNTEER FIRE SERVICES ACT SHOULD BE AMENDED SO THE DEFINITION OF VOLUNTEER WOULD SPECIFICALLY INCLUDE VOLUNTEER FIREMEN WHERE THEY ARE RECEIVING A MODEST HONORARIUM.

THIS COMMITTEE HAS BEEN ADVISED ON THE NEED FOR BETTER COMMUNICATION, NOT ONLY BETWEEN THE BASE AND ITS TRUCKS OR FROM TRUCK TO TRUCK OR DEPARTMENT TO DEPARTMENT BUT WITH OTHER EMERGENCY UNITS.

SOME VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENTS HAVE SOPHISTICATED SYSTEMS WHILE OTHERS HAVE A MORE SIMPLE SYSTEM, BUT THE LARGEST REQUEST WAS FOR DEPARTMENTS TO BECOME PART OF THE PROVINCE WIDE RADIO GRID.

WITH THIS IN MIND, THE COMMITTEE ATTENDED THE LANDS AND FORESTS PROVINCIAL FIRE CONTROL HEADQUARTERS AT SHUBENACADIE, WHICH IS A CENTRAL COMMUNICATIONS SYSTEMS MANNED 24 HOURS A DAY.

EVEN IN ITS INFANCY, THE NOVA SCOTIA SYSTEM IS A MODEL FOR OTHER PROVINCES DUE TO ITS RELIABILITY, HIGH QUALITY AND THE POSSIBILITY FOR INTEGRATED COMMUNICATIONS WITH OTHER DEPARTMENTS INCLUDING FIRE, HEALTH AND AMBULANCE.

AS AN EXAMPLE OF HOW THE SYSTEM CAN WORK, THE COMMITTEE WAS ADVISED ON A RECENT SITUATION INVOLVING A CARDIAC ARREST VICTIM WHOSE FRIENDS HAD CALLED THE LOCAL FIRE DEPARTMENT (WHICH HAPPENED TO BE ON THE PROVINCE WIDE GRID). THE FIRE DEPARTMENT CONTACTED THE HOSPITAL, THE AMBULANCE SERVICE, THE R.C.M.P. AND THROUGH THE COMMUNICATIONS SYSTEM PHONED THE HOSPITAL.

WHILE THE AMBULANCE SERVICE WAS ATTEMPTING TO TAKE THE PATIENT TO HOSPITAL, IT WAS NECESSARY TO CONTACT THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION AND HAVE ONE OF THE FERRIES USED IN THE PROVINCIAL TRANSPORTATION SYSTEM WAIT AT THE FERRY TERMINAL SO THAT THE AMBULANCE COULD MEET THE FERRY AND NOT HAVE TO WAIT FOR THE NEXT ONE.

WHEN THE AMBULANCE ARRIVED AT THE HOSPITAL, DUE TO THE COMMUNICATIONS INTEGRATION, THE HOSPITAL STAFF WAS WAITING FOR HIM. THROUGH SUCH A SYSTEM, THERE IS A MUCH GREATER CHANCE OF THE PATIENT'S SURVIVAL.

THE COMMITTEE, WHEN STUDYING THIS COMMUNICATION SYSTEM, HAS BEEN ADVISED THAT OVER 90 VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENTS HAVE MADE THE SACRIFICES NECESSARY TO OBTAIN EQUIPMENT AND PERMISSION TO BE ON THE PROVINCIAL GRID.

THEREFORE THIS COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS:

(23) THAT EMO MAKE APPLICATION TO THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT SO AS TO PERMIT THE PROVINCE TO PARTICIPATE IN THEIR JOINT EMERGENCY PLANNING (JEP) PROGRAM FOR THE PROVISION OF COMMUNICATIONS EQUIPMENT FOR VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENTS.

(24) THAT SUBSEQUENT TO APPROVAL BEING RECEIVED FROM THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT, THE PROVINCE DEVISE A PLAN WHEREBY THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT, THE MUNICIPAL UNIT AND THE PROVINCE OF NOVA SCOTIA CAN COST SHARE IN THE PURCHASE OF A BASE STATION OR MOBILE UNIT WHICH WILL BE COMPATIBLE TO THE PROVINCIAL GRID.

SEVERAL VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENTS FROM PREDOMINANTLY RURAL AREAS MADE SUBMISSIONS TO THIS COMMITTEE WITH RESPECT TO THE HIGH COST OF TELEPHONE SERVICE TO THOSE DEPARTMENTS WHICH, OF NECESSITY, MUST INSTALL A SEPARATE LINE TO AVOID THE OBVIOUS DIFFICULTIES INVOLVED WITH A PARTY LINE FOR VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENTS.

NUMEROUS EXAMPLES WERE ALSO BROUGHT TO THE ATTENTION OF THE COMMITTEE INVOLVING THE LEVEL OF RURAL TELEPHONE SERVICE. THE VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENTS INDICATED THEY HAD APPROACHED MARITIME TEL & TEL IN THE PAST WITH RESPECT TO SOME RECOGNITION OF THE VOLUNTEER NATURE OF THE SERVICE AND PERHAPS UTILIZING THE EXPERTISE OF THE PHONE COMPANY TO DESIGN A SYSTEM WHICH WOULD WORK BETTER THAN THE CURRENT ONE.

WITH RESPECT TO RATES, THE VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENTS WERE ADVISED THAT THE PUBLIC UTILITY BOARD WOULD HAVE TO CONSIDER SUCH A CHANGE. ACCORDINGLY, IT IS THE HOPE OF THIS COMMITTEE THAT MARITIME TEL & TEL WOULD CONSIDER, ON BEHALF OF THE VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENTS IN NOVA SCOTIA, A SYSTEM OF RATES WHICH WOULD ENCOURAGE THE PROPER FIRE COMMUNICATIONS IN RURAL AREAS.

<u>THEREFORE THIS COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS</u>:

(25) MARITIME TEL & TEL DEVELOP A STUDY TO EXPLORE THE POSSIBILITY OF A PROVINCE WIDE EMERGENCY NUMBER (OR BY REGION) AND ALSO TO EXPLORE THE FEASIBILITY OF REDUCED RATES FOR THE VOLUNTEER FIRE SERVICE.

IT IS ALSO THE HOPE OF THIS COMMITTEE THAT MARITIME TEL & TEL WILL INCLUDE IN A FUTURE APPLICATION TO THE PUBLIC UTILITY BOARD SUCH A SUBMISSION ON BEHALF OF THE VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTERS.

THE MATTER OF MUTUAL AID HAS BEEN BROUGHT TO THE ATTENTION OF THE COMMITTEE AND ALTHOUGH THERE IS NO WRITTEN DEFINITION OF MUTUTAL AID, IT IS STILL UNDERSTOOD BY THE VARIOUS VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENTS.

VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENTS TREAT EACH OTHER WITH MUTUAL RESPECT, THERE IS AN UNWRITTEN UNDERSTANDING THAT THEY ARE ALL BROTHERS AND SISTERS WORKING FOR THE COMMON GOOD OF ALL. IF ONE DEPARTMENT IS IS NEED OF ASSISTANCE IN ANY WAY, SHAPE OR FORM, ALL THEY HAVE TO DO IS CALL AND HELP IS FORTHCOMING.

BUT, THERE ARE GREY AREAS WHICH THESE DEPARTMENTS WOULD LIKE TO HAVE CLARIFIED. ARE WRITTEN AGREEMENTS NECESSARY? WHEN A DEPARTMENT ENTERS INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH ONE OR MORE VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENTS, ARE THEY ALSO SIGNING ON BEHALF OF THE MUNICIPAL UNIT?

WHEN A DEPARTMENT RESPONDS TO A MUTUAL AID CALL, WHO IS IN CHARGE OF THE SITUATION? CAN THE LOCAL CHIEF OR RANKING OFFICER TURN OVER COMMAND TO AN OUTSIDE OFFICER IF THAT OFFICER IS MORE QUALIFIED? WHAT IS THE LEGAL POSITION FOR A DEPARTMENT RESPONDING TO A MUTUAL AID CALL IN ANOTHER DISTRICT? THESE QUESTIONS CAN BE RESOLVED IN PART BY A MORE FORMAL AGREEMENT APPROVED BY LOCAL MUNICIPALITIES.

<u>THEREFORE THIS COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS</u>:

(26) THE DEPARTMENT OF MUNICIPAL AFFAIRS SHOULD, IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE NOVA SCOTIA FIRE ADVISORY COUNCIL AND THE FIRE MARSHAL'S OFFICE, ESTABLISH AND DEVISE A STANDARD MUTUAL AID AGREEMENT.

MANY VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENTS NOTED IN THEIR SUBMISSIONS TO THIS COMMITTEE THAT THEY HAD ENCOUNTERED DIFFICULTIES IN INCORPORATING THEMSELVES.

SOME HAD FORMED "LIMITED COMPANIES" UNDER THE COMPANIES ACT; SOME WERE "SOCIETIES"; OTHERS WERE SET UP TO THE RURAL FIRE DISTRICT ACT. SEVERAL DEPARTMENTS NOTED THAT THEY HAD ACHIEVED THEIR STATUS BY MEANS OF A "LOCAL BILL" IN THE HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY.

A NUMBER OF THOSE WHO TOUCHED ON THIS POINT INDICATED THEY FELT THE PROCEDURE FOR "INCORPORATION" WAS TOO COMPLEX AND THAT THEY HAD SIMPLY ABANDONED THEIR ATTEMPTS AND CONTINUED AS A LOOSELY ORGANIZED GROUP WITH <u>NO SEPARATE LEGAL ENTITY</u>.

UNDER THE RURAL FIRE DISTRICT ACT OR BY MEANS OF A "LOCAL BILL", THE COMMISSIONERS OF A VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT CAN OBTAIN AUTHORIZATION TO PROVIDE A SYSTEM OF FIRE PROTECTION, TO APPOINT FIRE WARDS, SET UP A SYSTEM OF MUTUAL AID TO OTHER DISTRICTS AND PROVIDE A MEANS OF SETTING RATES TO RAISE FUNDS FROM ALL RESIDENTS IN A DISTRICT.

THE PROCESS HOWEVER IS LENGTHY AND TO MANY DEPARTMENTS THE PROCEDURES INVOLVED ARE UNPUBLICIZED AND COMPLEX.

THIS COMMITTEE BELIEVES THERE SHOULD BE AN EASIER ACCESS TO THE INFORMATION NECESSARY TO INCORPORATE A DEPARTMENT AND PERSONS SHOULD BE ASSIGNED THE RESPONSIBILITY TO ASSIST IN THAT PROCESS.

AN INCORPORATED STATUS FOR A VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT CREATES A SEPARATE LEGAL ENTITY APART FROM THAT OF INDIVIDUAL MEMBERS. WITHOUT INCORPORATION, THE DEPARTMENT PLEDGES THE ASSETS OF ALL MEMBERS WHEN IT BORROWS MONEY AND THERE IS A LACK OF CONTINUITY. THE OWNERSHIP OF REAL ESTATE BECOMES EXTREMELY COMPLEX AND THE TRANSFER OF IT ALMOST IMPOSSIBLE.

AFTER INCORPORATION, THE DULY AUTHORIZED SIGNING OFFICERS OF SUCH A CORPORATION CAN ENTER INTO CONTRACTS, BUY AND SELL PROPERTY AND BORROW FUNDS.

THEREFORE THIS COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS:

(27) THE FIRE MARSHAL'S OFFICE, IN CO-OPERATION WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF MUNICIPAL AFFAIRS, OFFICE OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL AND THE REGISTRAR OF JOINT STOCK COMPANIES AT THE DEPARTMENT OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL OBTAIN AN INFORMATION PACKAGE WITH RESPECT TO THE VARIOUS OPTIONS AVAILABLE TO VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENTS WHO WISH TO INCORPORATE AND DISTRIBUTE THIS TO INTERESTED PERSONS WHO CONTACT HIM SEEKING ADVICE.

(28) THE FIRE MARSHAL'S OFFICE CONSULT WITH THESE AGENCIES SO THEY CAN ASSIST IN SIMPLIFYING AND EXPLAINING PROCEDURES TO THE APPLICANTS.

(29) THE REGISTRAR OF JOINT STOCK COMPANIES AT THE DEPARTMENT OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL AND THE DEPARTMENT OF MUNICIPAL AFFAIRS PREPARE AND IMPLEMENT LEGISLATION TO PROVIDE TO LOCAL MUNICIPALITIES AND THEIR VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENTS AN EASY, INEXPENSIVE AND SIMPLE MEANS OF ACHIEVING CORPORATE STATUS UNDER AN ACT ENTITLED, "VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT'S INCORPORATION ACT".

THIS COMMITTEE HAS CONTINUALLY HEARD HOW NECESSARY "AIR REFILLING STATIONS" ARE, DUE TO THE REQUIREMENT FOR FIREFIGHTERS TO WEAR BREATHING APPARATUS DURING FIREFIGHTING OPERATIONS.

FOR EXAMPLE, THE PRODUCTS OF COMBUSTION GIVEN OFF WHEN FIRE OCCURS IN MODERN CONSTRUCTION INVOLVE SYNTHETIC MATERIALS FOUND IN STRUCTURES. SOME OF THESE PRODUCTS ARE HYDROGEN CYANIDE, NITROGEN DIOXIDE, AMMONIA, HYDROGEN CHLORIDE, HALOGEN ACID GASSES, SULPHUR DIOXIDE, ACROLEIN, CARBON MONOXIDE AND HYDROGEN SULPHIDE. ANY OF THOSE LISTED MATERIALS CAN BE FATAL IF INHALED IN CONCENTRATIONS OF 100 TO 500 PARTS PER MILLION FOR PERIODS OF ONE TO FIVE MINUTES.

THE LOCATION OF THE AIR FILLING STATION IS OF PARAMOUNT IMPORTANCE TO THE VARIOUS FIRE DEPARTMENTS USING SUCH FACILITY. THE COMMITTEE EXAMINED THIS SITUATION TAKING INTO CONSIDERATION THAT THE FACILITY SHOULD BE CENTRALLY LOCATED AND THE EXISTENCE OF THE PRESENT FACILITIES SHOWN ON THE FOLLOWING MAP SO THAT IN AN EMERGENCY SITUATION THE REFILLING OF THESE APPARATUS MAY BE CARRIED OUT IN A MINIMUM OF TIME AND DISTANCE TO TRAVEL.

THE COST FACTOR FOR AIR REFILLING STATIONS COULD BE KEPT TO A MINIMUM AS A RESULT OF A CENTRAL LOCATION. IN ADDITION, THE FIRE MARSHAL'S OFFICE HAS ADVISED US THE COSTS OF THE EQUIPMENT FOR AN AIR FILLING STATION ARE CONSIDERABLE. BECAUSE OF THESE COSTS, IT STRAINS THE RESOURCES OF THE VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENTS TO OBTAIN SUCH EQUIPMENT ON THEIR OWN.

THEREFORE THIS COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS:

(30) THE PROVINCE SUPPLY FUNDING SO THAT AT A CENTRAL LOCATION IN ALL COUNTIES AIR COMPRESSORS OR AIR FILLING STATIONS CAN BE LOCATED.

WE WOULD SUGGEST THE FOLLOWING LOCATIONS BE CONSIDERED:

1. BETWEEN YARMOUTH AND DIGBY AT LITTLE BROOK
2. BETWEEN BRIDGEWATER AND SACKVILLE
3. ALONG THE HALIFAX COUNTY - GUYSBOROUGH SHORE
4. ALONG THE NORTHUMBERLAND SHORE
5. ANTIGONISH COUNTY
6. AROUND WHYCOCOMAUGH
7. AROUND ST. PETER'S
8. INGONISH
9. INVERNESS

1. NORTH SYDNEY
2. SYDNEY
3. GLACE BAY
4. AULD'S COVE
5. NEW GLASGOW
6. AMHERST
7. SPRINGHILL
8. BELMONT
9. BIBLE HILL
10. STEWIACKE
11. KENTVILLE
12. HANTSPORT
13. WINDSOR
14. SACKVILLE
15. WAVERLY
16. DARTMOUTH
17. HALIFAX
18. BRIDGEWATER
19. LIVERPOOL
20. SHELBOURNE
21. CLARK'S HARBOUR
22. YARMOUTH
23. DIGBY

A NUMBER OF SUBMISSIONS WERE MADE TO THE COMMITTEE WITH RESPECT TO "DISABILITY AND LIFE INSURANCE" FOR VOLUNTEER FIREMEN. SOME INDIVIDUALS, WHEN MAKING SUBMISSIONS, SUGGESTED THERE SHOULD BE "MANDATORY COMPENSATION COVERAGE".

OTHER VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENTS SUGGESTED THERE WAS A TREMENDOUS NEED FOR AN INCREASED SCOPE OF COVERAGE UNDER THE WORKERS' COMPENSATION ACT BECAUSE MANY VOLUNTEERS LEAVE FOR A FIRE SCENE DIRECTLY FROM THEIR RESIDENCE AND PREVIOUSLY HAD BEEN DENIED WORKERS' COMPENSATION COVERAGE FOR ANY INJURIES SUSTAINED WHILE TRAVELLING FROM THEIR HOME TO THE SCENE OF A FIRE.

THIS COMMITTEE ACCEPTED THE LEGITIMATE CONCERNS RAISED IN THIS MATTER AND SUBSEQUENTLY UNDERTOOK TO MEET WITH THE NOVA SCOTIA WORKERS' COMPENSATION BOARD WHICH HAS SUBSEQUENTLY INDICATED IT IS NOW THEIR POLICY TO PROVIDE COVERAGE FROM THE HOME TO THE FIRE, IF THE FIREMAN IS AUTHORIZED TO GO DIRECTLY TO THE FIRE SCENE FROM HIS RESIDENCE RATHER THAN REPORTING TO THE STATION.

FOLLOWING THE MEETING WITH THE NOVA SCOTIA WORKERS' COMPENSATION BOARD, IT WAS MUTUALLY AGREEABLE THAT THE WORKERS' COMPENSATION BOARD WOULD CIRCULATE THE ATTACHED NEW POLICY TO ALL VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENTS.

5668 SOUTH STREET

068

WORKERS' COMPENSATION BOARD OF NOVA SCOTIA

ALL CORRESPONDENCE SHOULD GIVE THE CLAIM OR FIRM NUMBER

PHONE: 425-8440
Ext. 133

July 15, 1983

ATTENTION: Fire Chief

RE: COVERAGE OF VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENTS
BOARD'S INTERPRETATION OF "IN THE COURSE OF THEIR EMPLOYMENT

The Workers' Compensation Board has reviewed Section 4(4)(c) of the Workers' Compensation Act and have ruled that the interpretation of "in the course of their employment" include:

(a) from the time they arrive at the fire hall; or

(b) reporting directly from their homes or employment to the fire or fire hall, when the alarm or phone sounds.

There is no other change in the Board's Policy but the following is repeated for your information.

COVERAGE FOR FIRE SERVICE GENERALLY:

Again under the Section noted, firemen are covered and deemed to be in the course of their employment when delegated or required by a duly authorized official to take part in the fire drills or tournments.

It would appear that if a fireman is delegated to attend some meeting or other activity directly dealing with his requirements as a member of a volunteer fire brigade, that he would be considered on duty whilst performing such services IN CONNECTION WITH FIRE MATTERS.

If an employee in general industry is delegated to attend a meeting, work shop, etc. in connection with his duties with the employer, he is considered covered and it does not appear that a concept of lesser coverage sohould probably be applied in a case of volunteer firemen.

However, it is quite clear under Section 4(4) that when a volunteer fire department is admitted for coverage this coverage only extends to the members or persons certified by a municipal official.

Yours very truly,

C. M. MacAuley
Director of Assessments & Accounting

WITH RESPECT TO THE QUESTION OF MANDATORY COVERAGE, IT IS THE OPINION OF THIS COMMITTEE, BASED ON OUR DISCUSSIONS WITH MANY INDIVIDUALS AND GROUPS WHICH HAVE APPEARED BEFORE US, THAT MANDATORY COVERAGE WOULD BE UNACCEPTABLE AT THIS TIME DUE TO THE WIDESPREAD POPULARITY AND ACCEPTANCE OF PRIVATE INSURANCE PLANS (SUCH AS THE WEST NOVA PLAN) WHICH WOULD THEN BECOME REDUNDANT IF THE CURRENT LEGISLATION WERE ALTERED TO MAKE THE COVERAGE MANDATORY UNDER THE WORKERS' COMPENSATION ACT.

IN ADDITION TO OUR STATED POSITION ON THIS SUBJECT, IT IS THE CONSENSUS OF THIS COMMITTEE, THAT IF THE WORKERS' COMPENSATION COVERAGE WERE MADE MANDATORY, THEN LOCAL MUNICIPALITIES, WHICH ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR THE PAYMENT OF PREMIUMS, MIGHT WELL DEDUCT COSTS INCURRED FROM THE TOTAL ALLOCATION THEY MAKE AVAILABLE TO VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENTS.

HOWEVER, THIS COMMITTEE WISHES TO STRESS MUNICIPAL UNITS HAVING JURISDICTION FOR THE AREAS IN WHICH LOCAL FIRE DEPARTMENTS ARE FORMED SHOULD ENSURE THERE IS A FORM OF POLICY IN EFFECT WHICH PROVIDES DISABILITY AND LIFE INSURANCE FOR VOLUNTEER FIREMEN EITHER THROUGH WORKERS' COMPENSATION OR THROUGH A PRIVATE PLAN.

THEREFORE THIS COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS:

(31) THAT WHILE THE CHOICE AS TO WHICH HEALTH OR DISABILITY PLAN SHOULD BE LEFT UP TO THE VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENTS IN CONSULTATION WITH THE LOCAL MUNICIPAL UNITS, THAT THE DECISION SHOULD RESULT IN SOME FORM OF COVERAGE BEING ENSURED.

NUMEROUS VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENTS HAVE NOTED THE DEPARTMENT OF LANDS AND FORESTS, BETWEEN APRIL 15TH AND OCTOBER 15TH (THE BURNING SEASON), ISSUES A SYSTEM OF BURNING PERMITS FOR PERSONS WHO DESIRE TO BURN BRUSH, ETC. DURING THIS PERIOD OF POTENTIALLY HIGH EXPOSURE.

SEVERAL DEPARTMENTS CITED INSTANCES WHERE THEY WERE CALLED OUT WHEN A FIRE WAS REPORTED ONLY TO DISCOVER A PERSON WAS BURNING MATERIAL UNDER THE PROVISIONS OF A PROVINCIAL BURNING PERMIT.

THEY SUGGESTED THE DEPARTMENT OF LANDS AND FORESTS SHOULD PROVIDE A COPY OF THE BURNING PERMITS ISSUED TO LOCAL VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENTS IN THE AREA FOR WHICH THE PERMIT IS SOUGHT.

THEREFORE THIS COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS:

(32) THE DEPARTMENT OF LANDS AND FORESTS, WHEN ISSUING A BURNING PERMIT FOR AN AREA, MAKE EVERY EFFORT TO ADVISE AND CONTACT THE LOCAL VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENTS WHICH REPRESENT THE AREA IN QUESTION.

DURING THE COURSES OF OUR STUDY AND DELIBERATIONS, THIS COMMITTEE HAS OBVIOUSLY CONFIRMED OUR PRIOR OPINION AS TO THE QUALITIES OF THE VOLUNTEER FIRE SERVICE IN THIS PROVINCE. THEY ARE HARD WORKING, DEDICATED, COMMUNITY MINDED CITIZENS AND THEY CONTRIBUTE TO OUR COMMUNITIES IN MANY DIFFERENT WAYS. THE SUGGESTION THAT AS INDIVIDUALS BELONGING TO THE VOLUNTEER FIRE SERVICE, THEY BE RESTRICTED FROM PUBLIC OFFICE ON A MUNICIPAL LEVEL IS UNACCEPTABLE TO OUR COMMITTEE. TO LOSE THEIR INVOLVEMENT IN THE COMMUNITY IN THE ABSENCE OF A CONCRETE, ALL PERSUASIVE ARGUMENT WOULD SEEM TO THIS COMMITTEE TO BE A TRAGIC WASTE OF A VALUABLE RESOURCE. NO SUCH ARGUMENT EXISTS IN OUR OPINION,

AND THEREFORE THIS COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS:

(33) THAT NO RESTRICTION BE PLACED ON MEMBERS OF A VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT BECAUSE OF THEIR MEMBERSHIP IN THAT DEPARTMENT WITH RESPECT TO BEING ELECTED TO MUNICIPAL OR PROVINCIAL OFFICE.

SUMMARY OF RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE SELECT COMMITTEE ON VOLUNTEER FIRE SERVICES

RECOMMENDATION 1:

THAT THE PROVINCE OF NOVA SCOTIA SHOULD PROVIDE FUNDING TO THE NOVA SCOTIA FIREFIGHTERS SCHOOL IN WAVERLEY IN A SUFFICIENT AMOUNT TO ENABLE THEM TO INTRODUCE A FIELD EXTENSION PROGRAM OF THE TYPE OUTLINED IN THEIR SUBMISSION.

RECOMMENDATION 2:

THE FUNDING TO THE NOVA SCOTIA FIREFIGHTERS SCHOOL AT WAVERLEY BE CONTINUED ON A YEARLY BASIS SUBJECT TO THE BUDGETARY PROCESS.

RECOMMENDATION 3:

THAT THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION AND THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND MANPOWER JOINTLY RECOGNIZE, BY ISSUANCE OF A CERTIFICATE, THOSE FIREFIGHTERS WHOM THE NOVA SCOTIA FIRE SCHOOL ATTESTS HAVE SATISFACTORILY COMPLETED VARIOUS TRAINING LEVELS.

RECOMMENDATION 4:

THAT A JOINT COMMITTEE BE ESTABLISHED WITH REPRESENTATIVES FROM THE NOVA SCOTIA FIRE SCHOOL, THE FIRE MARSHAL'S OFFICE AND THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND LABOUR & MANPOWER TO ASSIST IN CURRICULUM, DELIVERY OF PROGRAMS AND TO PARTICIPATE IN THE BUDGETARY PROCESS SO AS TO ASSIST IN THE NORMAL BUDGETARY PROCESS REQUIRED FOR OTHER GOVERNMENT EXPENDITURES.

RECOMMENDATION 5:

THE JOINT COMMITTEE ATTEMPT TO PROMOTE AND COOPERATE IN THE TRAINING OF VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTERS IN C.P.R. TECHNIQUES.

RECOMMENDATION 6:

THE BUILDING CODE ACT, S.N.S. 1977 BE PROCLAIMED INTO LAW.

RECOMMENDATION 7:

THE RESOURCES OF THE MUNICIPAL FINANCE CORPORATION BE UTILIZED BY VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENTS AND THEIR MUNICIPAL UNITS FOR THEIR BORROWING NEEDS.

RECOMMENDATION 8:

MUNICIPALITIES PERMIT DEDUCTIONS TO BE MADE TO THEM DESIGNATED FOR VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENTS SO THAT THE DONOR HAS THE BENEFIT OF AN INCOME TAX DEDUCTION.

RECOMMENDATION 9:

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE FOR THE PROVINCE OF NOVA SCOTIA CONTACT AND REQUEST THAT HIS FEDERAL COUNTERPART ATTEMPT TO SIMPLIFY THE GRANTING OF TAX NUMBERS SO THAT VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENTS CAN OBTAIN CHARITABLE STATUS FOR INCOME TAX PURPOSES ON THEIR OWN WITHOUT UNDUE DELAY.

RECOMMENDATION 10:

THE PROVINCE OF NOVA SCOTIA PROVIDE FOR A GRANT TO MUNICIPAL UNITS WHO ASSIST NEWLY FORMED VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENTS IN THE PURCHASE OF EQUIPMENT.

RECOMMENDATION 11:

THE GRANT BE 25% OF THE FUNDS PROVIDED BY THE MUNICIPALITY UP TO A MAXIMUM OF $10,000.00.

RECOMMENDATION 12:

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND MANPOWER REVIEW THE ROLE OF THE FIRE MARSHAL'S OFFICE AND THE FIRE PREVENTION ACT TO DETERMINE WHICH CHANGES CAN BE MADE TO INCREASE THE EMPHASIS ON EDUCATION, FIRE PREVENTION AND TO PROMOTE BETTER LIAISON AND INFORMATION TO THE VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTERS OF THIS PROVINCE.

RECOMMENDATION 13:

THE FIRE MARSHAL'S OFFICE SHOULD PREPARE AND DISTRIBUTE PRE-STAMPED BUSINESS REPLY ADDRESSED ENVELOPES TO THE LOCAL FIRE CHIEFS TO PERMIT THEM TO SUBMIT REPORTS AND ELIMINATE ANY POSTAL EXPENSE.

RECOMMENDATION 14A:

THE FIRE MARSHAL, REPRESENTATIVES FROM DEPARTMENTS CONCERNED AND THE NOVA SCOTIA FIRE ADVISORY COUNCIL STUDY AND PREPARE A LOOSE LEAF CONSOLIDATION OF ALL FIRE RELATED LEGISLATION AND PROVISIONS OF OTHER ACTS WHICH ARE RELEVANT.

RECOMMENDATION 14B:

THE CONSOLIDATION OF FIRE-RELATED LEGISLATION BE DISTRIBUTED TO EACH VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT.

RECOMMENDATION 14C:

THE CONSOLIDATION BE UPDATED AS REQUIRED AND THE UPDATED VERSION BE FORWARDED TO EACH DEPARTMENT.

RECOMMENDATION 14D:

THE PUBLICATION ISSUED QUARTERLY BY THE FIRE MARSHAL BE REDESIGNED AND IT INCLUDE MORE SPECIFIC INFORMATION AND ADVICE FOR LOCAL FIRE CHIEFS.

RECOMMENDATION 14E:

THAT QUESTIONS OF A GENERAL NATURE RECEIVED AT THE OFFICE OF THE FIRE MARSHAL BE INCLUDED WITH THE RESPONSE IN THIS PUBLICATION.

RECOMMENDATION 14F:

ALL DEPUTIES AND THE FIRE MARSHAL ATTEMPT TO ADVISE THE LOCAL CHIEFS WHEN THEY INTEND TO BE IN AN AREA SO THAT IF THE CHIEF SHOULD LIKE TO MEET AND DISCUSS MATTERS OF CONCERN, THIS CAN BE ARRANGED.

RECOMMENDATION 15:

ALL GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS SHOULD CONSIDER THE NEEDS OF THE VOLUNTEER FIRE SERVICE WHEN DISPOSING OF SURPLUS EQUIPMENT AND PROVIDE THOSE DEPARTMENTS WITH ALL PERTINENT INFORMATION AS TO THE METHOD TO BE USED ON DISPOSING OF THESE ITEMS.

RECOMMENDATION 16:

IT IS ALSO SUGGESTED THAT THIS INFORMATION BE PROVIDED TO THE OFFICE OF THE FIRE MARSHAL IN ORDER THAT IT CAN BE INCLUDED IN HIS REGULAR INFORMATION SERVICE TO THE VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENTS.

RECOMMENDATION 17:

THE CHAIRMAN OF THE NOVA SCOTIA FIRE ADVISORY COUNCIL BE APPOINTED FROM THE RANKS OF ONE OF THE NON-GOVERNMENT MEMBERS.

RECOMMENDATION 18:

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND MANPOWER SOLICIT THE VIEWS OF THE N. S. ADVISORY COUNCIL AS TO THE EMPHASIS TO BE ACCORDED TO THE VARIOUS ACTIVITIES OF THE FIRE MARSHAL'S OFFICE.

RECOMMENDATION 19:

THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION DRAFT AND CIRCULATE A POLICY FOR SNOW REMOVAL WHICH PERMITS THE OPERATOR TO CLEAR THE ENTRANCE LEADING TO A VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT.

RECOMMENDATION 20:

THE PERIOD OF TIME FOR ELIGIBILITY FOR THE FIRE SERVICE MEDAL SHOULD BE REDUCED TO TWENTY-FIVE YEARS.

RECOMMENDATION 21:

A TEN YEAR CERTIFICATE OF ACHIEVEMENT BE CONFERRED ON THOSE VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTERS WHO RETIRE WITH BETWEEN TEN AND TWENTY-FIVE YEARS OF SERVICE.

RECOMMENDATION 22:

THE VOLUNTEER FIRE SERVICES ACT SHOULD BE AMENDED SO THE DEFINITION OF VOLUNTEER WOULD SPECIFICALLY INCLUDE VOLUNTEER FIREMEN WHERE THEY ARE RECEIVING A MODEST HONORARIUM.

RECOMMENDATION 23:

THAT EMO MAKE APPLICATION TO THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT SO AS TO PERMIT THE PROVINCE TO PARTICIPATE IN THEIR JOINT EMERGENCY PLANNING (JEP) PROGRAM FOR THE PROVISION OF COMMUNICATIONS EQUIPMENT FOR VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENTS.

RECOMMENDATION 24:

THAT SUBSEQUENT TO APPROVAL BEING RECEIVED FROM THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT, THE PROVINCE DEVISE A PLAN WHEREBY THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT, THE MUNICIPAL UNIT AND THE PROVINCE OF NOVA SCOTIA CAN COST SHARE IN THE PURCHASE OF A BASE STATION OR MOBILE UNIT WHICH WILL BE COMPATIBLE TO THE PROVINCIAL GRID.

RECOMMENDATION 25:

MARITIME TEL & TEL DEVELOP A STUDY TO EXPLORE THE POSSIBILITY OF A PROVINCE WIDE EMERGENCY NUMBER (OR BY REGION) AND ALSO TO EXPLORE THE FEASIBILITY OF REDUCED RATES FOR THE VOLUNTEER FIRE SERVICE.

RECOMMENDATION 26:

THE DEPARTMENT OF MUNICIPAL AFFAIRS SHOULD, IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE NOVA SCOTIA FIRE ADVISORY COUNCIL AND THE FIRE MARSHAL'S OFFICE, ESTABLISH AND DEVISE A STANDARD MUTUAL AID AGREEMENT.

RECOMMENDATION 27:

THE FIRE MARSHAL'S OFFICE, IN COOPERATION WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF MUNICIPAL AFFAIRS, OFFICE OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL AND THE REGISTRAR OF JOINT STOCK COMPANIES AT THE DEPARTMENT OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL OBTAIN AN INFORMATION PACKAGE WITH RESPECT TO THE VARIOUS OPTIONS AVAILABLE TO VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENTS WHO WISH TO INCORPORATE AND DISTRIBUTE THIS TO INTERESTED PERSONS WHO CONTACT HIM SEEKING ADVICE.

RECOMMENDATION 28:

THE FIRE MARSHAL'S OFFICE CONSULT WITH THESE AGENCIES SO THEY CAN ASSIST IN SIMPLIFYING AND EXPLAINING PROCEDURES TO APPLICANTS.

RECOMMENDATION 29:

THE REGISTRAR OF JOINT STOCK COMPANIES AT THE DEPARTMENT OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL AND THE DEPARTMENT OF MUNICIPAL AFFAIRS PREPARE AND IMPLEMENT LEGISLATION TO PROVIDE TO LOCAL MUNICIPALITIES AND THEIR VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENTS AN EASY, INEXPENSIVE AND SIMPLE MEANS OF ACHIEVING CORPORATE STATUS UNDER AN ACT ENTITLED, "VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT'S INCORPORATION ACT".

RECOMMENDATION 30:

THE PROVINCE SUPPLY FUNDING SO THAT AT A CENTRAL LOCATION IN ALL COUNTIES, AIR COMPRESSORS OR AIR FILLING STATIONS CAN BE LOCATED.

RECOMMENDATION 31:

THAT WHILE THE CHOICE AS TO WHICH HEALTH OR DISABILITY PLAN SHOULD BE LEFT UP TO THE VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENTS IN CONSULTATION WITH THE LOCAL MUNICIPAL UNITS, THAT THE DECISION SHOULD RESULT IN SOME FORM OF COVERAGE BEING ENSURED.

RECOMMENDATION 32:

THE DEPARTMENT OF LANDS AND FORESTS, WHEN ISSUING A BURNING PERMIT FOR AN AREA, MAKE EVERY EFFORT TO ADVISE AND CONTACT THE LOCAL VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENTS WHICH REPRESENT THE AREA IN QUESTION.

RECOMMENDATION 33:

THAT NO RESTRICTION BE PLACED ON MEMBERS OF A VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT BECAUSE OF THEIR MEMBERSHIP IN THAT DEPARTMENT WITH RESPECT TO BEING ELECTED TO MUNICIPAL OR PROVINCIAL OFFICE.

Appendix "A"

APPENDIX "A"

CERTIFICATES PROVIDED TO FIREFIGHTERS IN MANITOBA

MANITOBA FIRE COLLEGE

in co-operation with

Assiniboine Community College

This is to certify

SAMPLE

has completed all of the requirements specified by the certifying authorities and examiners in the designated levels of

Fire Prevention and Inspection

Certified Fire Prevention Officer

Date

Minister of Labour

Minister of Education

Fire Commissioner

Director, Assiniboine Community College

MANITOBA

533

Fire Service Instructor

Manitoba Fire College

in cooperation with

Assiniboine Community College

SAMPLE

is hereby designated

[redacted]

I II III IV

Minister of Labour and Manpower

Minister of Education

Director Assiniboine Community College

Fire Commissioner

MANITOBA FIRE COLLEGE
IN COOPERATION WITH
ASSINIBOINE COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Certifies that

SAMPLE

has successfully completed
the reqirements for Level 1

Introduction to Fire Department Management

Dated this Day of A.D. 19

Minister Department of Education

Minister Department of Labour

Director
Assiniboine Community College

Fire Commissioner

Manitoba Fire College
in cooperation with
Assiniboine Community College

This is to certify that

SAMPLE

Has completed all the requirements specified by the authorities and examiners.

Dated

Institutional Fire Protection

Minister of Labour and Manpower

Minister of Education

Director Assiniboine Community College

Fire Commissioner

Appendix "B"

APPENDIX "B"

MUNICIPAL SURVEY RESULTS

- QUESTIONNAIRE -

FUNDING FOR VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENTS

1. Name of Department _____

2. What funds were received by your Department through the Municipal Service Grant for the years 1978, 1979, 1980, 1981 and 1982?

   _____

   _____

3. What funds for your Volunteer Fire Department were received from the Municipal Unit by way of:

   (a) an area rate _____

   (b) building count _____

   (c) any other method not included in the above (please explain) ___

   _____

4. In order to support our theory that many or most departments raised a large amount of their funds through the efforts of the volunteers, could you please identify the amounts raised privately for the years 1978, 1979, 1980, 1981 and 1982?

   _____

   _____

5. Would you supply information with respect to your Department's budget for:

   (a) operating costs _____

   (b) capital costs _____

   If possible, a copy of your budget for the last five years would be sincerely appreciated.

6. Do you have any preference as to which of the following Departments the fire service should be placed under:

   (a) Fire Marshal (Dept. of Labour & Manpower) _____

   (b) Dept. of Municipal Affairs _____

   (c) Dept. of Attorney General _____

   (d) Any other Departments _____

THE ABOVE INFORMATION WILL BE KEPT CONFIDENTIAL

QUESTION # 2

What funds were received by your Department through the Municipal Service Grant for the years 1978, 1979, 1980, 1981 and 1982?

Q-2

Total Grant for 1978 for all Departments	$390,816.00
Average Amount of Grant	$ 5,833.00

Parameters

High	$ 60,868.00
Low	$ 500.00

Total Number of Questionnaires Sent Out	260
Total Questionnaires Received	103
Total Who Responded to this Question	67
% of Those Responding to the Number of Questionnaires Received	65%

Q-2

Total Grant for 1979 for all Departments	$454,654.00
Average Amount of Grant	$ 6,228.00

Parameters

High	$ 60,868.00
Low	$ 500.00

Total Number of Questionnaires sent out	260
Total Questionnaires Received	103
Total Who Responded to this Question	73
% of Those Responding to the Number of Questionnaires Received	72%

Q-2

Total Grant for 1980 for all Departments	$405,714.00
Average Amount of Grant	$ 5,714.00

Parameters

High	$ 15,040.00
Low	$ 408.00

Total Number of Questionnaires Sent Out	260
Total Questionnaires Received	103
Total Who Responded to this Question	71
% of Those Responding to the Number of Questionnaires Received	68%

Q-2

Total Grant for 1981 for all Departments	$436,215.00
Average Amount of Grant	$ 5,592.00

Parameters

High	$ 16,200.00
Low	$ 408.00
Total Number of Questionnaires Sent Out	260

Total Questionnaires Received	103
Total Who Responded to this Question	78
% of Those Who Responded to the Number of Questionnaires Received	75%

Q-2

Total Grant for 1982 for all Departments	$502,118.00
Average Amount of Grant	$ 6,521.00

Parameters

High	$ 24,187.00
Low	$ 500.00

Total Number of Questionnaires Sent Out	260
Total Questionnaires Received	103
Total Who Responded to this Question	77
% of Those Responding to the Number of Questionnaires Received	74%

QUESTION # 2

Average amount of funds received by Volunteer Fire Departments through the Municipal Services Grant.

1978 - $ 5,833

1979 - $ 6,228

1980 - $ 5,714

1981 - $ 5,592

1982 - $ 6,521

QUESTION # 3

What funds for your Volunteer Fire Department were received from the Municipal Unit by way of A) Area Rate, B) Building Count, C) Any other method?

Q-3

A) AREA RATE

Total Amount Under Area Rate for all Departments	$738,030.00
Average Amount Received under Area Rate	$ 17,163.00

Parameters

High	$167,062.00
Low	$ 500.00
Total Number of Questionnaires Sent Out	260

Total Questionnaires Received	103
Total Who Responded to this Question	43
% of Those Responding to the Number of Questionnaires Received	42%

Q-3

B) BUILDING COUNT

Total Amount under Building Count for all Departments	$35,403.00
Average Amount Received under "Building Count"	$35,403.00

Parameters

High	$35,403.00
Low	$35,403.00

(for years '79 through '82)

Total Number of Questionnaires Sent Out	260
Total Questionnaires Received	103
Total Who Responded to this Question	1
% of Those Responding to the Number of Questionnaires Received	.97%

Q-3

C) ANY OTHER METHOD

Total Amount Under "Any Other Method" for all Departments	$358,358.00
Average Amount Received under "Any Other Method"	$ 17,064.00

Parameters

High	$111,469.00
Low	$ 885.00
Total Number of Questionnaires Sent Out	260
Total Questionnaires Received	103
Total Who Responded to this Question	21
% of Those Responding to the Number of Questionnaires Received	20%

Q-3

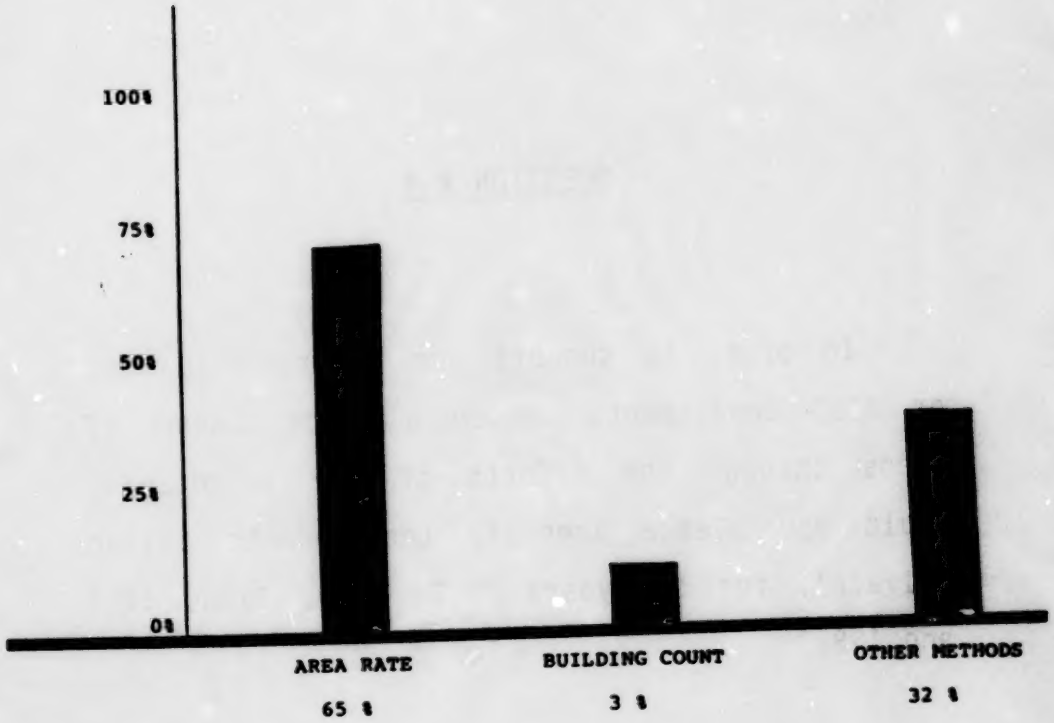
SUMMARY

Total Amount for Questions A, B & C	$1,131,791.00

Total Amount for Question A	$ 738,030.00
% of Total	65%

Total Amount for Question B	$ 35,403.00
% of Total	3%

Total Amount for Question C	$ 358,358.00
% of Total	32%



QUESTION # 3

Funds received by Volunteer Fire Departments expressed as a percentage of the total amount received under all three catagories .

QUESTION # 4

In order to support our theory that many or most Departments raised a large amount of funds through the efforts of the volunteers, could you please identify the amounts raised privately for the years 1978, 1979, 1980, 1981 and 1982?

Q-4

1978

Total Amount Raised Through the Efforts of the Volunteers for 1978	$648,650.00
Average Amount Raised by Volunteers	$ 8,316.00

Parameters

High	$ 53,909.00
Low	$ 205.00

Total Number of Questionnaires Sent Out	260

Total Questionnaires Received	103
Total Who Responded to this Question	78
% of Those Responding to the Number of Questionnaires Received	75%

Q-4

1979

Total Amount Raised Through the Efforts of the Volunteers for 1979	$853,037.00
Average Amount Raised by Volunteers	$ 10,035.00

Parameters

High	$ 72,000.00
Low	250.00
Total Number of Questionnaires Sent Out	260

Total Questionnaires Received	103
Total Who Responded to this Question	85
% of Those Responding to the Number of Questionnaires Received	82%

Q-4

1980

Total Amount Raised Through the Efforts of the Volunteers for 1980	$1,123,172.00
Average Amount Raised By Volunteers	$ 12,479.00

Parameters

High	$ 83,600.00
Low	$ 270.00
Total Number of Questionnaires Sent Out	260
Total Questionnaires Received	103
Total Who Responded to this Question	90
% of Those Responding to the Number of Questionnaires Received	87%

Q-4

1981

Total Amount Raised Through the Efforts of the Volunteers for 1981	$1,118,623.00
Average Amount Raised by Volunteers	$ 12,028.00

Parameters

High	$ 92,442.00
Low	$ 130.00

Total Number of Questionnaires Sent Out	260
Total Questionnaires Received	103
Total Who Responded to this Question	93
% of Those Responding to the Number of Questionnaires Received	90%

Q-4

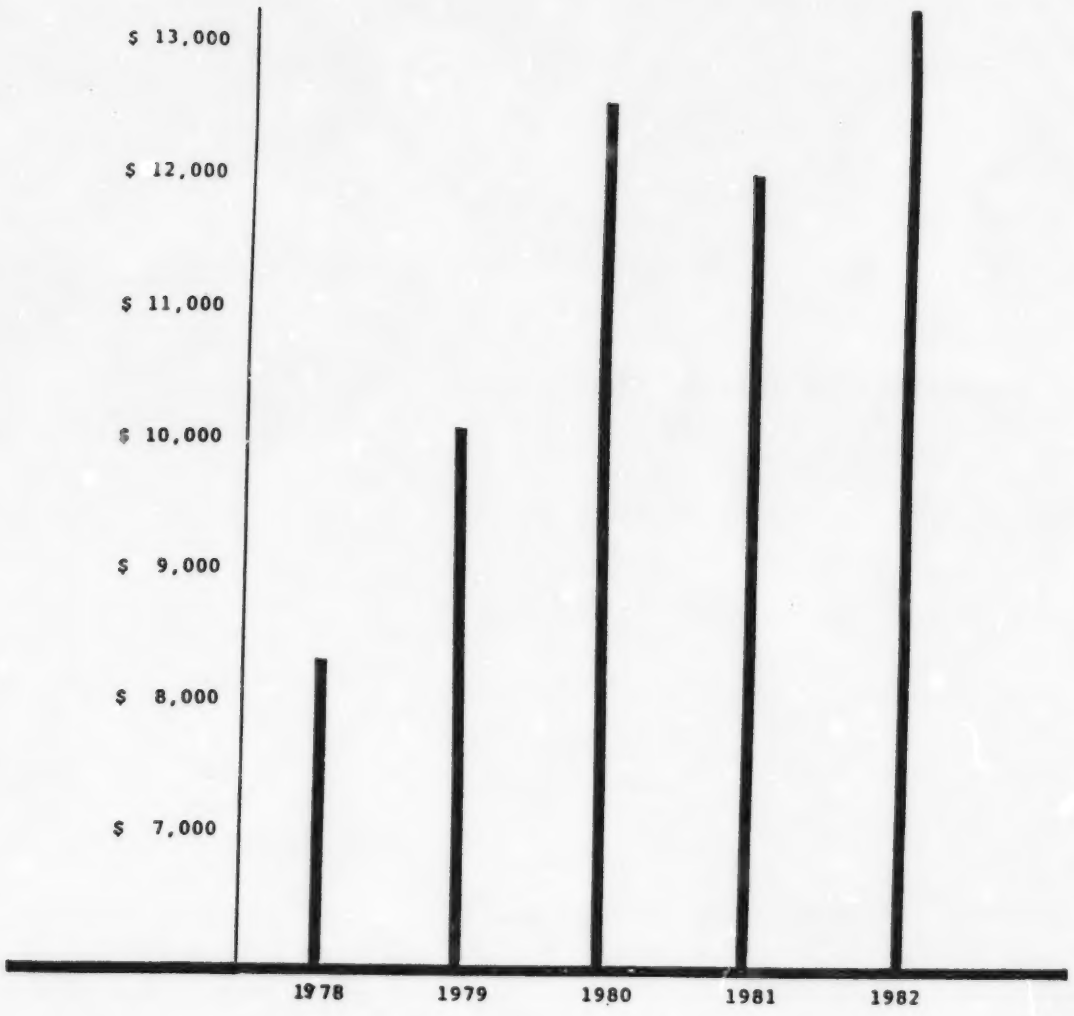
1982

Total Amount Raised Through the Efforts of the Volunteers for 1982	$1,276,496.00
Average Amount Raised by Volunteers	$ 13,159.00

Parameters

High	$ 70,700.00
Low	$ 370.00

Total Number of Questionnaires Sent Out	260
Total Questionnaires Received	103
Total Who Responded to this Question	97
% of Those Responding to the Number of Questionnaires Received	94%



QUESTION # 4

Average amounts raised privately by Volunteer Fire Departments

1978 - $ 8,316

1979 - $ 10,035

1980 - $ 12,479

1981 - $ 12,028

1982 - $ 13,159

QUESTION # 5

Would you supply information with respect to your Department's budget - A) Operating Costs, B) Capital Costs?

Q-5

A) OPERATING COSTS

Total Amount of Operating Costs for all Departments	$3,576,301.00
Average Operating Costs for 1982	$ 47,056.00

Parameters

High	$ 690,628.00
Low	$ 3,172.00

Total Number of Questionnaires Sent Out	260

Total Questionnaires Received	103
Total Who Responded to this Question	78
% of Those Responding to the Number of Questionnaires Received	75%

Q-5

B) CAPITAL COSTS

Total Amount of Capital Costs for all Departments	$1,814,206.00
Average Capital Costs for 1982	$ 27,910.00

Parameters

High	$ 620,358.00
Low	$ 885.00

Total Number of Questionnaires Sent Out	260

Total Questionnaires Received	103
Total Who Responded to this Question	65
% of Those Responding to the Number of Questionnaires Sent Out	63%

QUESTION # 6

Do you have any preference as to which of the following Departments the Fire Service should be placed under: A) Fire Marshall, B) Municipal Affairs, C) Attorney General, D) Other?

Q-6

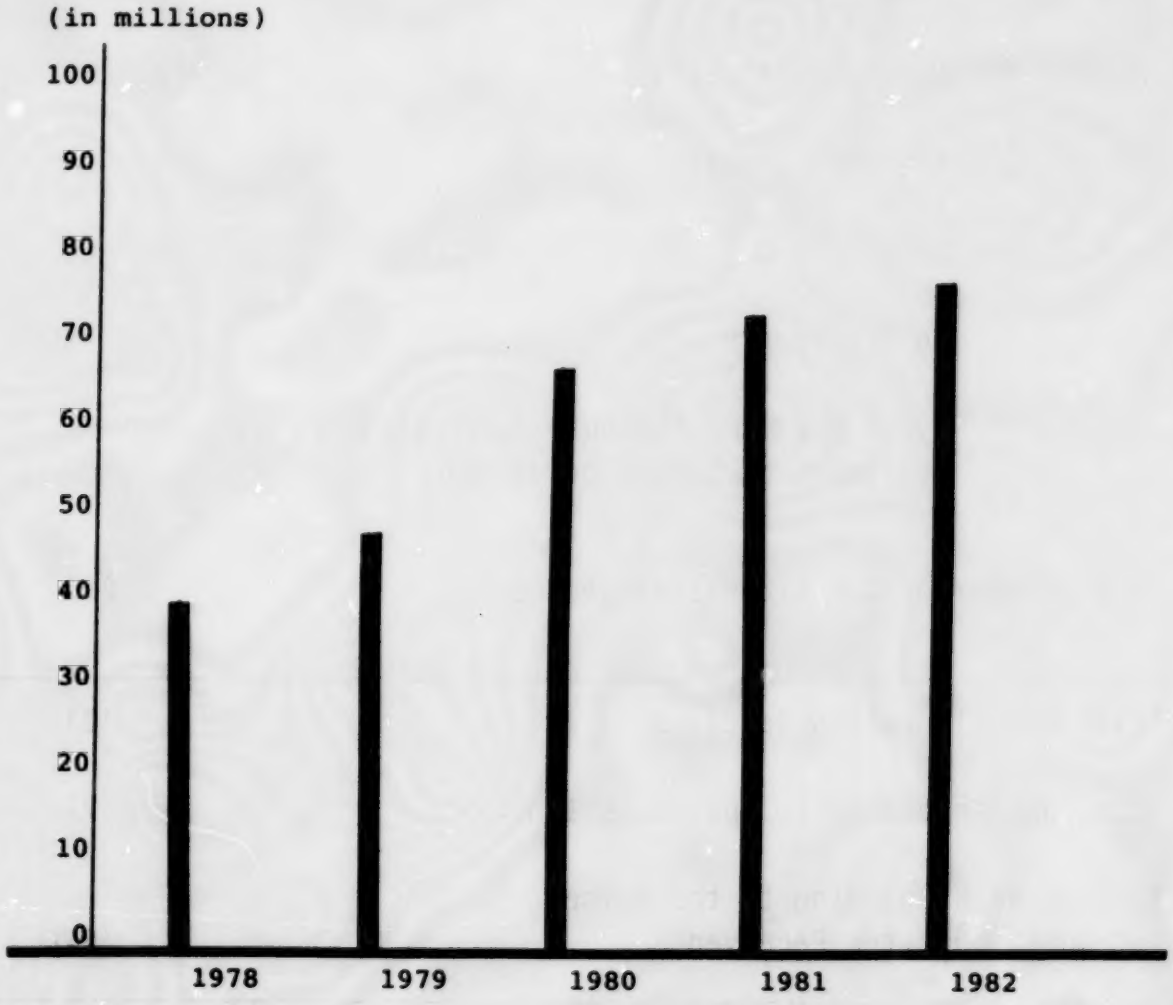
A)	Fire Marshall	76
B)	Municipal Affairs	12
C)	Attorney General	1
D)	Other	0
E)	No Preference	7
F)	The Town of Yarmouth indicated a new Department of Safety be formed.	

Total Number of Questionnaires Sent Out 260

Total Questionnaires Received	103
Total Who Responded to this Question	97
% of Those Responding to the Number of Questionnaires Received	94%

GRANTS PAID TO MUNICIPALITIES

BY THE NOVA SCOTIA PROVCINCIAL GOVERNMENT



1978 - $38,300,000

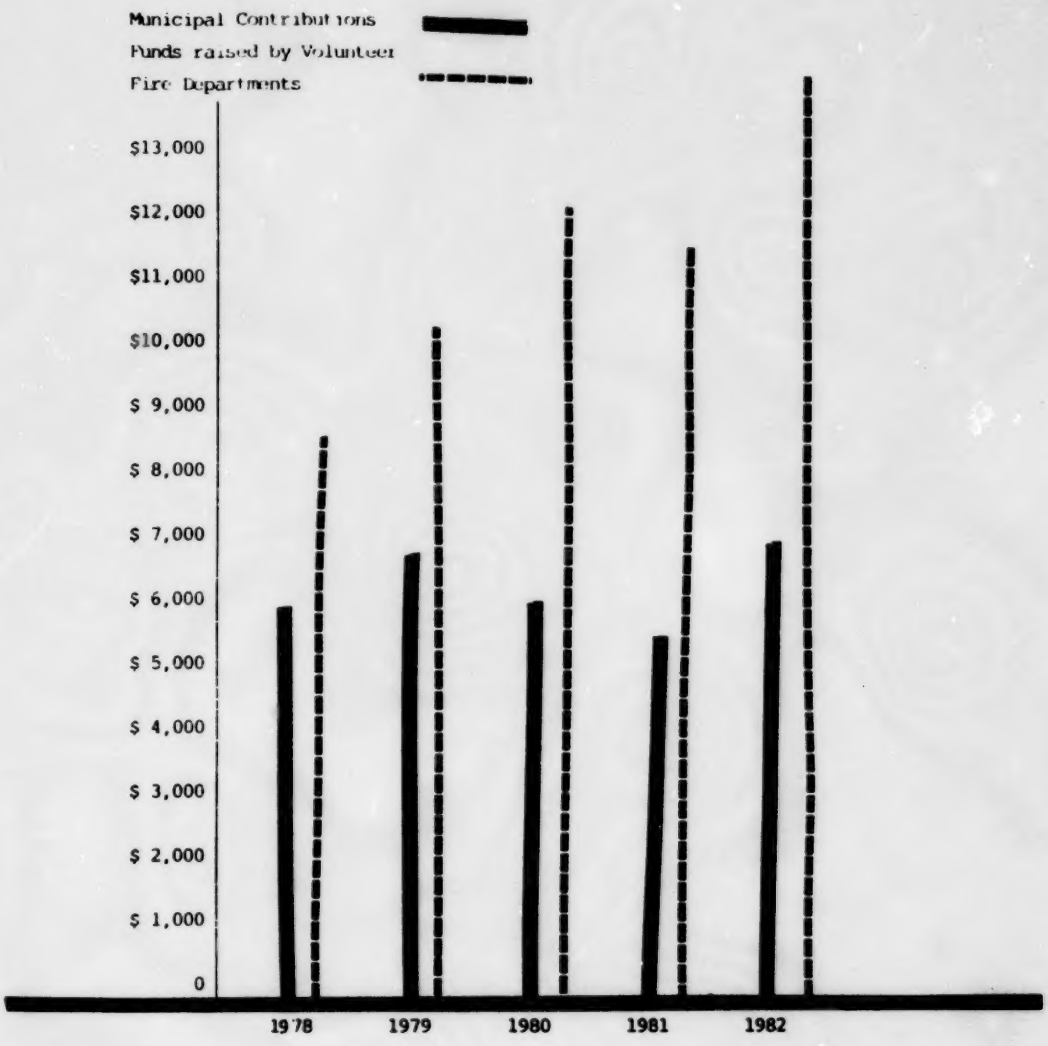
1979 - $44,200,000

1980 - $62,400,000

1981 - $66,700,000

1982 - $66,800,000

FUNDING COMPARITIVE GRAPH



Municipal Contributions	FUNDS RAISED PRIVATELY
1978 - $5,833	1978 - $8,316
1979 - $6,228	1979 - $10,035
1980 - $5,714	1980 - $12,479
1981 - $5,592	1981 - $12,028
1982 - $6,521	1982 - $13,159

Appendix "C"

APPENDIX "C"

SCHEDULE OF PUBLIC HEARINGS

- SCHEDULE -

SELECT COMMITTEE OF INQUIRY
VOLUNTEER FIRE SERVICES

DATE, TIME	LOCATION	GROUP
Wednesday, September 8, 1982 10:00 a.m.	Halifax	Chief Gerald Wood, Nova Scotia Firefighters School
Wednesday, September 8, 1982 3:00 p.m.	Halifax	Charles Findlay, Fire Marshal
Thursday, September 9, 1982 10:00 a.m.	Halifax	Keith Hamilton, Chief Fire Officers Association
Thursday, September 9, 1982 3:00 p.m.	Halifax	Nova Scotia Fire Advisory Council
Friday, September 10, 1982 10:00 a.m.	Halifax	Union of Nova Scotia Municipalities
Friday, September 10, 1982 2:00 p.m.	Halifax	General Meeting of Select Committee
Saturday, September 11, 1982	Nova Scotia Firefighters School Waverley, Nova Scotia	Tour

- SCHEDULE -

PUBLIC HEARINGS

SELECT COMMITTEE OF INQUIRY
VOLUNTEER FIRE SERVICES

SEPTEMBER, 1982

DATE	LOCATION	COUNTY
Tuesday, September 14, 1982	Lawrencetown	Annapolis County
Wednesday, September 15, 1982	Digby	Digby County
Thursday, September 16, 1982	St. Anne	Yarmouth County
Tuesday, September 21, 1982	Yarmouth	Yarmouth County
Wednesday, September 22, 1982	Shelburne	Shelburne County
Thursday, September 23, 1982	Liverpool	Queens County
Tuesday, September 28, 1982	Hebbville	Annapolis County
Wednesday, September 29, 1982	Waterville	Kings County
Thursday, September 30, 1982	Windsor	Hants County

- SCHEDULE -

PUBLIC HEARINGS

OCTOBER, 1982

DATE	LOCATION	COUNTY
Monday, October 4, 1982	Coxheath	Cape Breton County
Tuesday, October 5, 1982	Westmouth	Cape Breton County
Wednesday, October 6, 1982	Baddeck	Victoria County
Thursday, October 7, 1982	Margaree	Inverness County
Thursday, October 14, 1982	Port Hawkesbury	Inverness County
Monday, October 25, 1982	Pictou	Pictou County
Tuesday, October 26, 1982	Onslow	Colchester County
Wednesday, October 27, 1982	Amherst	Cumberland County
Thursday, October 28, 1982	Springhill	Cumberland County

- SCHEDULE -

PUBLIC HEARINGS

NOVEMBER, 1982 TO FEBRUARY, 1983

DATE	LOCATION	COUNTY
Wednesday, November 17, 1982	Guysborough	Guysborough County
Thursday, November 18, 1982	Jeddore	Halifax County
Monday, November 22, 1982	Halifax	Halifax County
Tuesday, November 23, 1982	Halifax	Halifax County
Wednesday, November 24, 1982	Halifax	Halifax County
Thursday, November 25, 1982	Halifax	Halifax County
Thursday, February 3, 1983	Halifax	Halifax County